

Israeli troops invade Lebanon after raid on kibbutz

Armed Israeli troops moved to the Lebanese border at dawn and began digging them into strongly defended. Accompanying the force are 250 troops were seven

tanks and armoured personnel carriers. The incursion, covering several miles, is thought to be the first phase of retaliation against Palestinian terrorists who attacked a kibbutz on Monday.

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rorists had been able to launch
their raid because the Palestin-

which stretches for about 60
miles from the shores of the
Mediterranean to the foothills
of Mount Hermon.

Until now, the Israeli have
been providing military and
financial support to the
Christian militias commanded
by Major Saad Haddad but they
have avoided an overt military
presence.

Tonight a senior United
Nations official in Jerusalem
told *The Times* that strong dip-
lomatic protests about the pen-
etration of Lebanese territory
would be made to the Israeli
Government.

"We regard this move as very
serious indeed and one that
can only hamper our efforts to
maintain law and order in a
difficult situation", the official
said. "How can United Nations
troops be expected to catch
terrorists if they have to deal with
something like this?"

The Israeli incursion was
the first since last May.

The United Nations official
also described the security
situation in another part of
south Lebanon as "very tense"
after the continuation of a
three-day confrontation between
Irish troops and members of
the Christian militias who
earlier this week kidnapped and
released 10 Israeli soldiers.

It was not immediately clear
what offensive action, if any,
the Israeli troops were plan-
ning to launch against the
pockets of Palestinian terrorists
now installed in various parts
of the territory controlled by
the United Nations Interim
Force in Lebanon (Unifil).

But there were fears in dip-
lomatic circles that the tension
could lead to renewed violence
on a wide scale.

After Monday's attack on
Kibbutz Misgav Am, there
have been repeated calls from
right-wing Israeli politicians for
tough action against the
Palestinian terrorists based in
south Lebanon.

The latest came earlier today
from Mr Moshe Arens, chair-
man of the Knesset's defence
and foreign affairs committee,
who claimed that the five ter-
rorists had been able to launch
their raid because the Palestin-

ian guerrillas had not been
attacked by Israel for some
time.

The United Nations has
angrily denied allegations by
senior Israeli officers that
armoured cars used on Monday's
attack had first made their
way, unchallenged, through ter-
ritory patrolled by members of
the Irish and Nigerian bat-
talions of Unifil.

These claims were followed
by accusations from Dr Yehuda
Blum, Israeli permanent re-
presentative at the United
Nations that hundreds of Palesti-
nian terrorists were now at
large in the Unifil area.

Today's Israeli incursion has
increased the strain between
Israel and the United Nations
to a level not experienced for
more than a year. Concentrated
diplomatic pressure is now ex-
pected to be applied in an at-
tempt to set Israel to withdraw
its troops.

Previously, the Israelis have
been particularly scathing about
the performance of the Irish
troops, who they regard as
openly sympathetic to the Pal-
estinian cause.

This distrust was further in-
creased earlier this year when
Mr Brian Lenihan, the Irish
Foreign Minister, spoke out
openly in support of the need
for Palestinian "self-determina-
tion".

Assembly lines at all three
plants were halted, but BL said
that there was plenty of work,
including the completion of
partially finished vehicles, for
those who reported.

Last May, a much larger
force of Israeli troops and
tanks entered another part of
south Lebanon which was under
the responsibility of the Irish
but on that occasion they were
persuaded to pull back across
the border after only a few
hours.

Today's operation comes at a
sensitive time for the fragile
Middle East peace process. It
is less than a week before Mr
Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister,
is due to leave for Wash-
ington for talks with President
Carter.

Diplomatic sources said it
was probable that the American
Government would react strongly
to the latest Israeli military
activity on Lebanese territory.

Palestine talks, page 6

Most of BL workers accept new package

By Clifford Webb
Nearly 80,000 BL car workers,
97 per cent of the manual labour
force, rejected strike action yes-
terday and reported for work as
usual. At three plants they had
to break the cattails and jeans of
pickets led by Transport and
General Workers' Union shop
stewards.

The massive turnout in spite
of a weekend of intense activity
by stewards opposed to BL's
decision to implement its con-
troversial pay and working con-
ditions package is seen as a
vote of confidence for Sir
Michael Edwardes, chairman of
BL.

Most of those on strike are
members of the transport union.
They will be receiving a 5 per
cent wage increase compared
with 10 per cent for skilled
workers. The extra 5 per cent is
regarded by the management as
an overdue attempt to restore
wage differentials for craftsmen
who have been leaving BL in
large numbers.

It has intensified the already
bitter rivalry between the trans-
port union, which represents
mainly unskilled and semi-
skilled workers, and the Amal-
gamated Union of Engineering
Workers, which has a much
higher proportion of skilled
members. All 23,000 engineer-
ing union members at BL
obeyed their national executive's
instruction and reported
for work.

The militants were partially
successful at the Rover (Sol-
hull), Jaguar (Coventry) and
Common Lane, Birmingham,
plants. About half the 4,000
workers making Land-Rovers
and Range Rovers stayed away.
At the two Jaguar plants fewer
than half of the 4,500 workers
were on strike and at Common
Lane, where the Sherpa van is
produced, 1,500 out of 1,800
workers accepted a strike
recommendation.

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One Russian source said the
two men would attempt to set a
new space endurance record. Mr
Ryumin, the world's most tra-
velled spaceman, spent a record
175 days in orbit on board the
Soyuz-32 and Soyuz-34 flights
last year. —Reuter and UPI



Army dog's farewell: Rats, the Army dog who has survived several terrorist attacks, on farewell parade at Pirbright, Surrey, yesterday, when he retired at eight years old from service with the Prince of Wales Company, 1st Battalion, Welsh Guards. In Crossmaglen, Northern Ireland, he never left the patrols when they came under fire. He was once shot at and twice wounded by car bombs, besides receiving head and leg injuries when struck by

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How the Kremlin's
master plan
hit a snag, page 14

IRA kill PC and injure 3 in machine gun attack

From Christopher Thomas
From Belfast

The Provisional IRA killed a
police officer and injured three
others when they fired 100
rounds from an armour-piercing
gun into the open rear
door of a Land-Rover in West
Belfast yesterday.

The dead man was Constable
Stephen Magill, aged 24, who
had been married for eight
months. He joined the Royal
Ulster Constabulary in 1973.

Another officer was seriously
injured and one was shot in the
leg. A woman constable con-
tinued transmitting for help
despite bullet wound in one
hand.

The three killers struck as
the police arrived to investigate
a report of a broken window at
the Stewartstown library. The
police, when staff arrived in
the morning. Shortly after 9
am, as the officers were about to
jump from the rear of the
Land-Rover, the gunmen opened
fire from the other side of the
road.

The killers had installed
themselves in a private house at
11.30 pm on Wednesday. They
kept a man, his wife and two
children hostage all night. The
attack was mounted from an
upstairs window. Several stray
bullets hit the library wall.

The Provisional IRA in Belfast
claimed responsibility in a
statement issued soon after the
murder. They used an
American-made M60, probably

Trade union decisions already
taken mean there will be no
trains or daily newspapers.

Many unions have yet to take
decisions on the "day of
action" but, judging from the
response so far, industry, com-
merce and public services will be
seriously affected by what the
TUC still insists is not a
one-day general strike.

However, the threat of a TUC
boycott of the National Economic
Development Council and its
associated bodies, such as
sector working parties in industry,
is receding.

Trade unionists are to take
a confidential survey of
union attitudes to withdrawal
from all joint union-employer
industrial action in protest
against the Government's
new labour laws.

Meanwhile, all but one of the
killers have been arrested.

The attack brings to 31 the
number of people killed in
terrorist acts in Northern Ireland
this year. There were 26
in the same period last year.

The breakdown of this year's
dead is: three regular police
men; three police reservists;
four members of the Ulster
Defence Regiment; three sol-
diers and 18 civilians.

US asks allied envoys for support in putting pressure on Iran

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, April 9

A covey of ambassadors from
friendly and allied countries
has been summoned to the
State Department this after-
noon to meet Mr Cyrus Vance,
the Secretary of State, who will
ask them for their countries'
cooperation and support in
dealing with Iran. The State
Department would not identify
them this morning nor reveal
today whether he had applied
for political asylum.

A spokesman said that there
was no list of actions the
United States wanted its allies
to take. It is clear, however,
that they are again being asked
to exert as much pressure on
Iran as possible in an attempt
to obtain the release of the
hostages.

The steps they could take, in
the American view, include a
recall of ambassadors, if not a
full break in diplomatic relations,
and a trade embargo. The
United States would like as
many nations as possible to
abide by the terms of the
Security Council resolution of
January 13, which was vetoed
by the Soviet Union and which
prohibited all exports to Iran
except food and medical
supplies.

It is calculated here that the
Iranian threat to ban the export
of oil to any country that joins
in sanctions against it is no
more than bluff. There is now a
world glut of oil and those
countries that import consider-
able quantities from Iran could
get it elsewhere.

They have now been ordered
to leave by Friday. It is not
clear how many Iranians will
then remain. There are thought
to be about 50,000 students and
their status is being examined
again.

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HOME NEWS

Rail unions agree to consider efficiency as part of package

By Dennis MacIntyre

Labour Reporter

A pay settlement for 186,000 British Rail (BR) workers appeared more likely after the three railway unions formally agreed yesterday to consider efficiency measures as part of any deal.

The negotiations, which will be resumed next Thursday, will concentrate on trying to bridge a gap between a board offer of 13 per cent plus 4 per cent for productivity, and a joint union demand for 17.5 per cent plus 2.5 per cent in return for moves to improved efficiency.

The agreement to include BR efficiency proposals in the pay talks represents a marked shift in union opinion, particularly that of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef).

British Rail, which must contain its cost increases over the coming financial year within £750m, is pressing the unions for agreement to an initial group of medium-term productivity measures.

They include the reduction of spare marshalling yard capacity while the Speedlink fast freight service is developed, a reduction in the number of parcel depots to match traffic levels, and "changes in administration".

Print firms meet on pay

By Our Labour Staff

General printing and provincial newspaper employers are meeting today against the background of a threat of increased industrial action by members of the National Graphical Association in pursuit of their claim for an £80-a-week minimum wage and a 37½-hour week within the next year.

The NGA said yesterday that since the dispute began a fortnight ago firms employing about a fifth of the 50,000 workers directly or indirectly affected by the negotiations had reached interim settlements. Those firms had therefore been exempted from any industrial action.

The tactic of holding disruptive mandatory meetings in

London, Mr Clifford Rose, BR director of personnel, said:

"We are not a thousand miles apart. We are in sight of an agreement to a significant change." There had been "a major step forward to commitment to change from the trade unions".

The unions presented a joint offer yesterday demanding a 20 per cent total increase. They insisted that while an efficiency element could be included, that should not cover more than 2.5 per cent of any increase.

It is possible that at next week's talks a package deal of 20 per cent including fringe benefits, may be reached, but two hurdles remain. One is the gap in the figures, the other is British Rail's difficulty in agreeing how firm and practical is the union's commitment to productivity measures.

Mr Sidney Webber, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaysmen, the biggest rail union, said yesterday that the discussions had been "amicable". Mr Ray Buckton, general secretary of Aslef, said that the union had not reversed its original commitment not to make productivity deals. "We are not here to sell jobs", he said. "We have always been prepared to discuss more efficient use of manpower."

provincial newspapers may be increased, and according to the NGA about 1,000 workers in general printing firms have stopped work indefinitely and are "occupying factories".

The NGA say that the interim settlements affected firms in the British Printing Industries Federation and those non-federated ones which normally follow agreements reached by the federation.

The federation said it had evidence of only 60 of 3,700 member companies having settled.

The federation and the Newspaper Society, representing provincial newspaper employers, negotiated jointly with the NGA. Both groups have offered a £75 minimum and a 37½-hour week by 1982.

Therapists strike for better offer

By Annabel Ferriman

Health Services Correspondent

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Inquiry committees' impact on British policy-making questioned

By Peter Hennessy

The Royal Institute of Public Administration (RIPA) is to undertake the first examination for 70 years of the effectiveness of royal commissions and departmental committees of inquiry.

Mr William Plowden, Director-General of the RIPA, said yesterday: "Such bodies reflect the typically haphazard, hit-and-miss approach to policy in this country. Someone ought to ask questions about them. They are simply repeated time and time again without anybody looking back and saying: 'Did the last one make a contribution?'

It is 71 years since Mr Herbert Gladstone, Liberal Home Secretary, appointed a Departmental Committee on the Procedure of Royal Commissions under the chairmanship of Lord Balfour of Burleigh.

The committee, which reported in 1910, concluded that they were unanimous in believing that the appointment of royal commissions is useful for the elucidation of difficult subjects which are attracting public attention, but in regard to which the information is not sufficiently accurate to form a preliminary to legislation.

Between the general elections of 1964 and 1979 successive prime ministers appointed 19 royal commissions. Mr Plowden believes that today such bodies have a limited impact on policy-making and are part of the



Mr. Herbert Gladstone: Appointed 1909 committee.

wider difficulty of achieving change and innovation in British administration.

He said: "The trouble is, you feed back the findings of a royal commission into the system that has performed so inadequately in the first place that a royal commission had to be set up. It raises the question: how does a professional bureaucracy innovate?

"It is arguable that the government could do without some of these bodies rather than cutting those cost-less quangos."

Mr Plowden, who first

published the 1980 edition of *RIPA Report*, is keen to hear from those with direct experience of royal commissions and committee of inquiry.

His first step will be to call a meeting of interested people to discuss the scope of an inquiry which should be under way by the autumn.

In conversation yesterday he described five different types of committee or commission established in recent years:

1. Those whose purpose was to accumulate information, like the Folbuck committee on the Civil Service, "where the evidence is better than the report".

2. Those whose foundation was a substitute for taking action.

3. Those which served to break a logjam in the bureaucracy.

4. Those intended to propagate a particular point of view in the government of the day, like the Bullock committee on industrial democracy, and

5. Those which examined subjects of recurring interest like the press and broadcasting.

Mr. Plowden suggested that the Royal Commission on Legal Services, which was announced

recently, had been "considerable disquiet" might be used as a check.

RIPA Report, Spring 1980, Vol 1, No. 1 (5 Birdcage Walk, London, SW1H 9JJ).

Lord Kagan may be considering surrender

By Arthur Geman

Lord Kagan yesterday discussed with his legal team, Piero Karsenty, a French lawyer, the possibility of facing a voluntary trial in England to face the fraud charges.

It was believed in Paris where Lord Kagan has held on remand in the prison since his arrest on 22 December, that he had decided to surrender to British authorities rather than face extradition proceedings. If so, he could come within a few days.

The first stage of the extradition application is expected in Leeds tomorrow, when city justices will be asked to authenticate documents including the warrant issued by their last November for Lord Kagan's arrest. The extradition hearing will then be in Paris next Wednesday.

Last night the Foreign and Commonwealth Office said:

"The embassy in Paris has advised the French authorities to accept a consular visit to see Lord Kagan in prison. The purpose of the visit would be to ensure that he is happy about legal representation, and so on."

An official of the department of the Director of Public Prosecutions said earlier yesterday that after Leeds the next stage would be the passing of extradition documents by way of the Home Office and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to the Quai d'Orsay, which in turn would send them to the French judicial authority for consideration. That would probably be next week.

He said no date was yet known for the full examining hearing in Paris at which the DPP would probably be represented by French lawyers.

Assuming the French authorities were satisfied with the documents and an extradition order was made, the would be an appeal process open to the person involved.

About 500 cars have been bought and crushed by Lancia in just more than a year. The company said there could be another 500 which would also be dealt with. The total cost of the scrapping operation was put at about £1m.

Today Lancia is publishing advertisements, including one in *The Times*, offering a free six-year corrosion prevention programme on new cars.

The sales campaign, which began in February and is exclusive to the United Kingdom market, emphasizes that all Lancias are now given anti-corrosion treatments. On every car bought before May 3 the company is providing two free treatments after 23 and 46 months.

Lancia is using a system offered by Cadacal Chemicals and the treatment is in addition to the normal factory-added protection.

A United Kingdom spokesman for Lancia said the company had been aware of the problem for two years and could not deny that the new warranty aimed to counter that. Such offers, however, are common in the motor industry.

The decision to scrap the Lancias, some of them six or seven-year old models, was taken at the company's headquarters in Turin after it had been found that engine mountings were rusting. Although this was not a safety hazard, if the mountings failed the cars became unroadworthy.

Owners of cars with rusted mountings are being offered the trade-in value plus some compensation.

Lancia claims that most are accepting the deal and buying new or younger second-hand Lancias. The average value of the cars is about £1,000.

The Department of Transport has asked Lancia for full details of the defect.

New virus death

A patient aged 76 died at Kingsgate Hospital, near Abingdon, yesterday from a similar influenza virus to that which killed 10 patients at St Luke's Leicestershire recently.

The patient died on

Wednesday morning in

Leeds Crown Court with the other defendants and two co

defendants, the charges allegi

ngs of perjury and un

lawfully exporting denim cloth.

Yesterday Lady Kagan, age 55, was working at Eland West Mill, which had the foundation

husband's business succe

Labour's special conference is on

By Michael Hartfield

Political Reporter

Labour's special party conference, initiated by the left wing, is to take place in spirit of murmurings from some trade union leaders and "moderate" politicians about its advisability.

That was decided yesterday

at a meeting of the national

executive committee, where the left turned up in force to man their barricades but not a shot was fired in anger.

Mr James Callaghan, Leader

of the Opposition, who is be

lieved to be among those who

held strong reservations, voted

with the rest for a resolution

which, in effect, gave a blessing

to the conference.

The NEC meeting had been

called at the instigation of Mr

Callaghan and his move had

aroused suspicions of the left

that he was seeking to have a

previous decision overturned

and have a rally rather than

a conference. But the alterna

tive was only touched on.

The statement will contain

politics already agreed by

the party, which could provide a

rally when it goes before

the NEC.

Mr Callaghan, Mr Foot,

Mr. Hartfield and Mr. Wedg

wood, B and Mr. Norman

Addison, party treasurer.

Party policy no longer refers

to achieve import controls

but, in line with a conference

decision in 1978, "planned

import controls" as part of the

alternative economic strategy

to reflate the economy.

Today was set for the refer

endum, which was called off

last week by Forest Heath Dis

trict Council.

Brandon is near the United

States Air Force base at Laken

Heath.

Mr. Griffiths maintains that

polish polis cannot cover

matters of national importance

is involved.

The whole law on drink

and driving needs radical

reappraisal, it says. The present

law gives scope for artificial

defences and for advantage to

be taken of technical excuses

for evading responsibility,

which brings it into disrepute.

Oppressive law: Shorter

prison sentences

and a review of the

"wasteful" law on young

offenders and the abolition of

suspended sentences are pro

posed in a review of sentences

published by the Justices

Clerk's Society yesterday.

J. M. 1980



These days, car salesmen offer you the options list the way waiters offer you the à la Carte.

Leaving you to choose the fixtures and fittings according to your pocket.

A state of affairs which we find lamentable.

Hence, the appointments, generally found on the options lists of other cars, are already present in the Royale. For example, automatic transmission is standard. (You can have manual; if you prefer, at no additional cost.)

Nor is the car required to embrace a variety of humbler engines.

Only one is offered: a 2.8 litre 6-cylinder unit that accelerates the Royale to a top speed of 115 mph*.

Inside, the furnishings are such that even the most critical of travellers will find little to carp at.

The seats are covered in crushed velour with head restraints at the rear as well as the front.

You can even adjust the driver's seat for height, as well as for reach and rake.

Additionally, the steering wheel can be tilted and the steering is powered.

Those interested in the smaller details will find

central locking for the doors, an electronic boot release, a sliding steel sunroof and radio/stereo cassette player.

While outside are double-skinned metallic paint, alloy wheels and a headlamp wash/wipe system.

In fact, the Royale's specification is so complete that the only option offered is air conditioning.

Your Vauxhall dealer will be glad to demonstrate these virtues to you.

And you'll find he hasn't the slightest inhibition about extolling the car's remarkable value.

SALON £12,100, COUPE £12,647. PRICES, CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.
INCLUDES CAR TAX & VAT. DELIVERY & NUMBER PLATES EXTRA. *MANUFACTURER'S FIGURE.

Is it vulgar to talk about value in a luxury car?

VAUXHALL
ROYALE

HOME NEWS

Fluid in lungs 'most important factor' in causing Kelly death

From David Nicholson-Lord, Liverpool

Dr Michael Pearson, a Liverpool hospital doctor, said yesterday at the inquest on Mr James Kelly, aged 53, who died in police custody, that "probably the most important factor" in the cause of death was an accumulation of fluid in the lungs.

Such an accumulation, he said, led to breathlessness and was one of the effects of heart disease. "It meant that if he was kept prone on the ground he would experience extreme anxiety and fear and would struggle in every possible way to sit up."

He agreed with Mr Andrew Rankin, QC, for the Chief Constable of Merseyside, that a struggle caused by lung congestion could give police officers the idea that Mr Kelly was continuing to resist arrest.

Dr Pearson said that despite a serious heart condition Mr Kelly could have given a very good account of himself in a fight.

Dr Pearson, a cardiac and thoracic registrar at Broadgreen Hospital, who diagnosed angina in Mr Kelly, a former building labourer, five weeks before his death, said many drunken people admitted into hospital casualty departments suffered from heart disease, and yet could be extremely violent and extremely strong. Short bursts of activity would have been within Mr Kelly's reach.

Sergeant David Berrington, the third of four officers involved in Mr Kelly's arrest to give evidence, said Mr Kelly was struggling violently, kicking out and "throwing his arms about" as two officers held him on the ground.

Sergeant Berrington, aged 29, said he knelt on Mr Kelly's chest to try to catch hold of his arms. At one stage there were two officers putting pressure on Mr Kelly's chest.

The sergeant said he was punched in the face and kicked on the knee. He was signed off work for a week by the hospital casualty doctor. He had a broken tooth.

Sergeant Berrington said he

had received a government disallowance grant for the injuries he received on the night of the arrest, and after the inquest intended applying to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Unit.

He said he was totally surprised to learn of Mr Kelly's heart condition, in view of his behaviour. No unlawful or excessive violence was used on him, and no police officer had done anything he could criticise.

The hearing was also told that Mr Kelly was "not long away from" a blood-alcohol level considered to be lethal.

Dr David Paterson, a Home Office scientist, said the lethal level was believed to start at about 400mg of alcohol in 100ml of blood. Mr Kelly's blood contained 331mg of alcohol, and his urine 465mg.

Dr Paterson said the minimum amount of alcohol needed to produce those measurements is a man of 15 stones about Mr Kelly's weight, with 13 pints of beer or 26 single whiskies.

Dr Paterson said that Mr Kelly had been referred to him by his family doctor because of breathlessness.

Dr Paterson diagnosed ischaemic heart disease, or angina, prescribed tablets, and advised Mr Kelly to stop smoking and drinking.

He agreed with Mr Gilbert Gray, QC, for the Kelly family, that for two officers to sit on Mr Kelly's chest as he was trying to get up was "dangerous and might well lead to death".

Mr Gray—Do you not relate to the cause of death the great violence that occurred?

Dr Paterson—It is another factor in the equation, yes. But the excess fluid was probably the most important factor.

He agreed with Mr George Carman, QC, for the Police Federation and the four officers, that it would have been an act of folly for someone with Mr Kelly's heart condition to drink a minimum of 13 pints of beer. Coupled with struggle or exertion, it would add to his chances of death.

Polls show low black confidence in police

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

A strong distrust of the police is shown in a poll carried out for Granada Television among people in parts of Merseyside, Manchester and Brixton, South London. But confidence is strong among a wider cross-section of people polled in the North-west.

Hostility towards the police was apparent in replies to questions put to 220 people of West Indian origin in Brixton on the Friday and Saturday after the Bristol riot.

Seventy per cent told European Marketing Surveys they thought people in the area had little or no confidence in the police. More than half said they thought that immigrants were discriminated against, and that young people were treated less favourably than other groups. Two-thirds thought it likely that the violence in Bristol would be repeated.

The sense of grievance that many black people feel about use of the "sus" law (arrest for suspicious behaviour under the Vagrancy Act) showed in the poll. Thirty-eight per cent of those questioned in Brixton felt that the police were too harsh on suspicious behaviour.

More than three-quarters said they had heard allegations that police mistreated suspects in Brixton. Nearly everyone who had heard an allegation of that kind believed it was at least partly true.

Polls by Opinion Research Centre in mid-March covered more than 2,000 adults in the north-west, with a more detailed look at Huyton and Waterfoot on Merseyside, and Moss Side and Blackley in greater Manchester.

As previous surveys, more than half of those polled in the region as a whole replied that they either had a great deal of confidence in the police or quite a lot.

Among young people in all four city areas, 63 per cent said they thought people had not much confidence. That compared with 36 per cent in the region.

Letters, page 15

Pressure groups, 4: American-style tactics may be next step to regaining power

Influence in decline while membership is increasing

By Ian Bradley

Most observers seem to agree that the heyday of pressure group power and influence is coming, if only temporarily, to an end. As Mr Frank Field, former director of the Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) and now Labour MP for Birkhead, said: "This Government heralds the end of old-style lobbying. It is much less open to pressure than any others in the last 30 years. Ministers are increasingly saying to pressure groups, 'Whom do you represent?'

It is dangerous to generalize about the present Government's attitude to pressure groups. Mr Czech Courtois, campaign director of Friends of the Earth, says they have found it more responsive than the last government on some issues, like whaling, and less on others.

However, there is a general feeling that the Conservatives are less sympathetic to the involvement of pressure groups in policy-making than their Labour predecessors. Where individual ministers do show an interest in seeking up a

cause championed by a particular group, they are sometimes rebuffed in by their backbenchers.

A carefully concerted campaign by Tory MPs has recently forced the Government to abandon plans for a stronger anti-smoking policy in parts of Merseyside, Manchester and Brixton, South London. But confidence is strong among a wider cross-section of people polled in the North-west.

The trouble now is that the

right-wing wind is blowing so hard that very few politicians are left to play the democracy card.

"The stream is going under and it will need to be brought to the surface again by political action."

He sees the future for pressure groups as lying with a Labour Party that is more responsive to their demands.

"The Labour Party's

skilled and the poor in

industry, and also increasing

Paradoxically, while they may be losing some of their power and influence, pressure groups are, if anything, gaining in support and continuing to attract wide coverage in the media. They are also widening their appeal and taking in more working-class members alongside their traditional middle-class support.

"We have got to build extra support by appealing to particular sectional groups. I would see the women's movement and the environmentalists as two big lobbies with a large amount of support that we should be cultivating."

Mrs Madeleine Simms, who

has been active in pro-abortion

pressure groups, for more

than 20 years, is worried that the short-term future for pressure groups in Britain. "They have depended and thrived on the atmosphere of decency and concern that has traditionally bred social reform," he says.

"The trouble now is that the right-wing wind is blowing so hard that very few politicians are left to play the democracy card."

Another way, pressure groups could combat a decline in influence and power would be to develop more sophisticated American-style of lobbying.

Other pressure groups are turning to the services of parliamentary consultants and professionals lobbying organisations. They are a growing feature of the British political scene. The most recent was formed only a few weeks ago by former political assistants to Mr James Callaghan, Mr Edward Heath and Mr David Steel.

If American-style of lobbying can catch on, politics could become more sectional, with interest groups demanding that

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'Black tactics' criticiz

From Richard G of The Times E Supplement Blackpool

Teachers who Carlisle, QC, Secretary, a ho were using each

Mr Kennedy's

On Monday the annual conference of the National Union of Teachers, which represents about half the teachers in England and Wales, approved the continuation of discussions in that working party, but said that they should be kept separate from the forthcoming salary negotiations.

Speakers at annual conference he said: "I did

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Leading article, page 15

they already did more than the hours proposed for "other professional duties", Mr Cocking said. "But there is a world of difference between doing it with a clock or you than because you have decided it to be valuable."

Delegates should wake up to the threat to their professional standards.

"Do not cede the right to make professional judgments on these matters. You can lose these rights only once, and they should be sold dearly."

Mr Terry Casey, the union's general secretary, said afterwards: "The local authorities must now see that conditions of service is a dead duck. What ever possibility there was of any movement on that has gone."

"They have said that they are no longer willing to have voluntary duties on the uncertain basis of good will; we will not

accept them on the basis of competition; so presumably that means they are not going to get any voluntary duties."

A ruling by Lord Denning in the Court of Appeal last year had confirmed that a teacher's contractual duties consisted of just five hours a day, 190 days a year, Mr Casey said.

The union has refused from the outset to take part in the working party on conditions of service set up jointly a year ago by the local authorities and all the other teachers' unions.

On Monday the annual conference of the National Union of Teachers, which represents about half the teachers in England and Wales, approved the continuation of discussions in that working party, but said that they should be kept separate from the forthcoming salary negotiations.

Education authorities should be encouraged to set up local science centres to which children might be released from school on, say, two half-days a week. Institutions of higher education might second staff for a year's teaching in schools. Weekend and vacation courses could be organized for pupils gifted in the sciences.

Education authorities should be encouraged to set up local science centres to which children might be released from school on, say, two half-days a week. Institutions of higher education might second staff for a year's teaching in schools. Weekend and vacation courses could be organized for pupils gifted in the sciences.

Photograph by Peter Simpson

in secondary school it was common for pupils to spend only about a tenth of lesson time studying the three sciences, probably in the form of general or combined science.

Because biology teachers outnumbered those of chemistry and physics, general science was often taught by them. The chemistry and physics components of the course might well be neglected or badly taught.

Nationally, secondary school rolls would drop on average by 30 per cent, he said. In some areas the decrease would be much greater.

Concurrence of the physical sciences as separate subjects for pupils up to the age of 16 would be seriously threatened as schools became smaller.

Mr Best spent two years as a member of a research team, directed by Professor Eric Briault at Sussex University and funded by the Department of Education and Science, which has been inquiring into the effects of falling rolls in 20 comprehensive schools. Professor Briault's report is to be published on April 28.

Mr Best questioned whether chemistry should not be seen as the "sick man" of the curriculum. For the first three years

the high rate of youth unemployment created further difficulties.

Several teachers reported that many of their brighter fifth-formers were leaving school at 16 to find jobs. The head of one science department said that more than half of his most promising pupils had been lost in that way.

As pupil numbers fell, heads had to take decisions about which staff to cut. Chemistry, as a minority subject, was often one of the first subjects to go.

Mr Best went on to suggest a variety of measures aimed at combating the decline in the sciences in schools: special science boarding schools could be established by universities and polytechnics, he said. Comprehensive schools in urban areas should be allowed to specialize in certain subjects, such as science or modern languages.

Education authorities should be encouraged to set up local science centres to which children might be released from school on, say, two half-days a week. Institutions of higher education might second staff for a year's teaching in schools. Weekend and vacation courses could be organized for pupils gifted in the sciences.

Photograph by Peter Simpson

eight (left), and Jane Meyrick, aged 11, two visitors making Easter bonnets at the Museum of London yesterday.

Ex-undercover soldier stole from employers

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent</

E NEWS

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paintings of children, but a
willingness among the trade
and private buyers to pay high
prices for the best works of the
period. Roy Miles paid £10,000,
and £10,000 for two Burne
Jones canvases, "The Heart of
the Rose" and "Pilgrim at the
Gates of Idleness", both with
pre-sale estimates of between
£50,000 and £100,000.A Cairene bazaar subject by
John Frederick Lewis was sold
to the Fine Arts Society for
£80,000 (estimate £80,000 to
£120,000).Frank Cadogan Cowper's
"Eve", which made £2,500

with 15.6 per cent bought in.

University delays sale of Whistler pictures

By Frances Gibb

Glasgow University is to delay
any decision on the sale of 11
Whistler pictures from its art
collection until the end of July
in the hope that the cash needed
for its new art gallery will be
raised from private benefactors.The decision, not yet officially
announced, means that there is a strong chance that the £320,000 needed to meet
the deficit on the new gallery,
to be opened in July, will be
raised in time to prevent the
pictures being sold.It was warmly welcomed by
the all-party group, *Heritage in
Danger*, yesterday. Mr Hugh
Leggett, secretary, said: "We
are delighted that the university
has agreed to postpone the
sale and hope the decision
will encourage benefactors,
particularly from banks and oil
companies, as the arts minister
has advocated."He urged Scots, not only in
Britain but also in Canada and
the United States, to support
the university and help to pre
serve "the patrimony of Scot
land". On no account shouldthe works be sold, he said.
Sir Alexander Cairncross, the
university's chancellor, and Dr
Alwyn Williams, the vice-chancellor,
have launched an appeal to
try to raise from industrial and
commercial enterprises the last
of the money needed.There is no hope of rescue
by government agencies, they say in their letter.
The only hope for the collection's remaining intact lies in a
generous response to the
appeal.In March the university
court, its governing body,
agreed to delay a decision on
the sale of the pictures for one
month. It is understood that Dr
Williams has now said any decision
will be delayed until the
end of the university's financial
year.The disclosure that the university
was considering selling the
works has aroused much
criticism among arts and heritage
groups. The university argued that with building costs at
£1,400,000 and its reserves
exhausted, the only alternative to a sale would be loss of teaching
and other jobs.

BBC chief sees danger in corporation's cash gap

By Kenneth Gosling

Sir Michael Swann, chairman of the BBC, said in London last
night that any serious attempt
by politicians of the left or
right to meet the BBC's financial
difficulties by forcing it to
take advertising or by a direct
government grant would rouse
such a storm of protest that it
that would quickly back down.Delivering the Royal Television
Society's Fleming Memorial Lecture, Sir Michael, reflecting on his departure in
July, said: "There is no painless
solution. Governments willhave to set the licence fee at a
reasonable level, and so control
the income of commercial
television that the disparity is
not too great."I prefer to believe that the
way they have tipped the
balance so far against us
arises from inadvertence rather
than design. I doubt if they will
raise the licence fee in a big
way, though, perhaps they
should."They will, more probably,
give us modest increases andmodestly limit the income of
commercial television by re
casing the levy.It will be as good a com
promise solution as one can
hope for in an undivided world,
and it will at least go some way
towards restoring a balance of
advantage that is getting dan
gerously out of true."Earlier Sir Michael said it
was wrong for the Government
to "screw down" the BBC for
no real reason other than
"pour encourager les autres".The BBC never had a penny
of government money for its
home services; the licence fee
was payment for a service, and
he could think of no other area
where any government tried to
limit what people might spend.He was concerned at the
great and growing gap between the
BBC and independent tele
vision."It is a distressing time to
be leaving the chairmanship, because
the situation is serious and in future years it could
become grave", he said.Undertaker hid
stole £700 in coffin

In brief

Remand on £1.5m charge

Andrew Duncan MacFarlane, aged 36, a former financial in
vestment administrator, was remanded in custody until tomorrow
by Liverpool magistrates yesterday accused of stealing £1.5m belonging to University Superannuation Scheme Ltd.

Mr MacFarlane, of Wood Lane, Parkgate, Cheshire, was charged with stealing the cash between March 24 and March 25.

Remand on £3,000 council deceit charge

Roger Gleaves, aged 47, of Victoria Road, Finsbury Park, north London, was remanded on bail at Highgate yesterday accused of dishonestly obtaining more than £3,000 from Barnet council and other charges of deceit. Reporting restrictions were not lifted and the hearing was adjourned until April 23.

25 years' driving ban

Findlay McLachlan, aged 42, of Knowle Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, was banned from driving for 25 years and fined £700 by Birmingham magistrates yesterday after pleading guilty to driving with excess alcohol in his blood and without insurance failing to produce a test certificate, and careless driving.

Fingerprints check

More than 2,000 youths and
men on the Bierley council
estate in Bradford are to have
their fingerprints taken by the
police seeking the killer of
Mrs Gertrude Grey, aged 72.
She was attacked at her maisonette
in Heath Hill Avenue, Bierley, and died a few days later.

Student jailed

Mr Helmut Osborne, aged 22,
a Sussex University student,
who threw bags of flour at
National Front marchers was
jailed for seven days by magi
strates in Brighton yesterday.
He admitted threatening behaviour.

Fruits of temptation

Bus crews at Luton, Bedford
shire, complain that fruit
machines in the works canteen
tempt them to spend too much
money. A hundred buses stopped
for two hours yesterday
while a meeting voted for
removal of the machines.The most striking failure of
the evening was a version of
William Powell Frith's "The
Railway Station", which was
bought in at £45,000. Jeremy
Mazs, the dealer and Victorian
expert, had reattributed it to
Marcus Stone, a less popular
figure, on the day before the
sale.The sale produced £907,600,
with 15.6 per cent bought in.

WEST EUROPE

Premier fails to save Belgian coalition

From Michael Hornsby

Brussels, April 9

Baudouin today
accepted the resignation of the
Belgian Government after the
failure of Mr Wilfried Martens,
the Prime Minister, to resolve the
differences within his coalition.Last week a handful of senators
from Mr Martens's own
party, the Flemish wing of the
Democrats, voted with the opposition against a
crucial clause in a Bill laying the
groundwork for a new system of regional administra
tion.Mr Martens immediately
tendered his resignation but
was asked by the King to make
a final effort over Easter to
save the coalition. When he
admitted failure and his
resignation was accepted.Belgium thus faces the possibility
of its third general election
in as many years. Before the
King decides whether to call
elections, he will explore with
party leaders the possibility of putting together a
different coalition under a new
Prime Minister. This could take
several months.The collapse of the Martens
Government was caused by the
demand of militant Flemings (Dutch
speakers) for a guarantee of equal representation in
the 19 borough councils of
Brussels and in the city's central
administration, even though the capital's population
is predominantly French speaking.The Flemings fear that the
regional reforms could lead to a
federal set-up in which Brussels
would have equal standing with
Dutch-speaking Flanders in the north and
French-speaking Wallonia in the south, giving the French
speakers control of two out of the
three regions.Observers here believe that
the King, who plays a more active
political role than most
constitutional monarchs, will
want to do all he can to avoid
new elections since these seem
unlikely to make a solution of the
basic issues any easier.

Photography by Brian Harris

Winter is back in Bavaria. This was the
Christmas card scene yesterday at Ramsau

Dr Owen condemns Walker EEC role

By Hugh Noyes

Dr David Owen, Labour's
former Foreign Secretary, yesterday
strongly criticized the attempts of Mr Peter Walker,
Minister of Agriculture, to change the rules of the European
Community's "green" currency system in a way that
would have meant a tax on food imports into Britain.Mr Walker's aim has been
to provide better protection for
British food exporters and
farmers who have been at a
disadvantage because of the recent
sharp rise in the value of the pound.But Dr Owen, now Opposition
spokesman on energy, said that
Mr Walker's moves could well
mark the point at which Britain would
exit from the EEC.Speaking to a Labour Party
delegates' course at Esher College
in Surrey, Dr Owen said that the
Government's decision must be reversed even if it
meant the resignation of Mr
Walker.The public, he said, was promised
that Community membership
would never mean that Britain,
as a food importing nation, would have to tax food
coming into Britain merely because
it was a member of the EEC. The result of the move to
do just that was that the Government had suddenly lost
all credibility in Europe for itsdemands to reform the common
agricultural policy.Britain, said Dr Owen, was now
seen as advocating the high
Community food prices that it
had always condemned. Britain
was seen to be increasing the
subsidy to its farmers while
criticizing the subsidy of other
countries, and it was adding to
surplus products when it had
been leading the crusade
against nonsensical such as the
butter mountain.Dr Owen is one of Labour's
leading supporters of the EEC
and he was a close ally of Mr
Roy Jenkins, now President of the
European Commission, in
the battle for British membership
of the Community.He said he was amazed that
no one in the Government seemed
to realize the full gravity of the recent steps it
had so lightly taken. Britain
was seen by its partners in
Europe to be actively increasing
its contribution to the Community budget which, for the
past three years, successive
governments had been trying to
reduce.Dr Owen suggested that Mr
Walker seemed to have taken
leave of his senses. The
Government appeared to have
conceded far more to EEC food
price increases and had added to
these increases a tax on food
imported into Britain. The result
would be that the retail price
index would rise and inflation
and wage claims increase.

More informal talks on the future of Gibraltar

Lisbon, April 9.—The British
and Spanish foreign ministers
have agreed to have a second
round of informal talks tomorrow
on the future of Gibraltar after a meeting today
lasting just under an hour.Lord Carrington, the British
Foreign Secretary, said afterwards
that "it was a good discussion", but neither Señor Marcialo Ortega, the
Spanish Foreign Minister, would comment on each other's
viewpoints until after tomorrow's meeting.The two ministers, meeting in
the Portuguese Foreign Ministry, are discussing Gib
ralta for the first time since
the lower house of the Spanish
Parliament empowered the
Government last March to open
the land link with the British
colony, should London agree to
formal negotiations about its
future.Neither side has indicated
what concessions if any it is
prepared to make to break the
deadlock over Gibraltar.In the 1967 referendum the
people of Gibraltar voted to
maintain their link with Britain.
Two years later Spain sealed
the land border with Gibraltar
to put pressure on Britain to
return the rock.—Reuters

TWA introduce a new class of comfort- Ambassador Class.



Specially for the transatlantic businessman.

It's the way all businessmen should go to the USA. TWA's new Ambassador Class is in a class of its own.

The drinks are free. So are the headsets for music and movies. Attention is special, with a priority choice of meals, an appetiser, and all served in First Class style with linen, glass and china. There are even little extras, like complimentary slipper socks and toilet articles.

Ambassador Class has its own section of the plane and, whenever possible, you will have an unoccupied seat next to you.

You're going to like us



WEST EUROPE

Computer offices set on fire in second Toulouse terror raid

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, April 9.

Within four days of the raid by terrorists on the premises of the Philips Data Systems Company in Toulouse, those of another computer firm in the same city, the CII-Honeywell-Bull Company, were ravaged by fire early today.

Responsibility was claimed by the same "Action Group 27-28 March" in a telephone call today to the French press agency.

The call suggested a systematic plan to paralyse the operations of computer firms in France and destroy computer programmes, on the ground that they are weapons in the hands of government.

This at least is the claim put forward last night by another group calling itself the "Clodo", or Committee for the Liquidation and Misappropriation of Computers. In a statement to the left-wing newspaper *Liberation* last night, Clodo claimed that it, and not the "Action Group", was responsible for the raid on the Philips Data Systems premises.

"We are computer workers and, therefore, well placed to know the present and future dangers of computer systems," it said. Computers are the favourite instrument of the powerful. They are used to classify, to control, and to repress. We do not want to be shut up in the ghettoes of programmes and organizational patterns."

Experts of the CII-Honeywell-Bull subsidiary in Toulouse said: "The commercial loss is incalculable."

The arsonists were out to destroy billing documents of clients of the firm. They broke into the offices on the second

floor of a tall block of flats and after ransacking the archives, set fire to them.

The fire brigade was alerted shortly after 4 am by a night watchman. Within an hour, the fire was under control.

The 15 offices are black with soot, the lobby, where the archives and data programmes were burnt was ravaged by fire, and a demonstration computer destroyed.

The fire also damaged the balconies of the upper floors of the building, in which there are 84 flats. Half of them are without water and electricity.

The Toulouse branch of the firm was opened in these premises two years ago and employed some 70 people on the sales and maintenance of computers. No complete or top secret computer programmes were destroyed.

The clients of the branch were mainly government offices, wholesale businesses, or higher education establishments.

The "action group" said in its call today that it would authenticate its actions in future with the letters "OAS" on the floor of computer rooms raided by them. It added that the raid had been carried out with beer bottles filled with sulphuric acid and petrol. The documents recovered would be sent to the newspaper *Marie de Paris* with a detailed communiqué.

The judicial investigation of the raid on the premises of the Philips Data Systems Company has been entrusted to the Court for State Security, which is dealing with the case of members of the "direct action group" arrested last month in Paris and in Marseilles.

The management of the Toulouse branch of Philips denied that the data destroyed or stolen were concerned with defence or counter-espionage.

Experts of the CII-Honeywell-Bull subsidiary in Toulouse said: "The commercial loss is incalculable."

The arsonists were out to

destroy billing documents of clients of the firm. They broke

into the offices on the second

Vienna ceremony raises hopes for US-Soviet talks

Vienna, April 9.—Mr Andrii Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, has agreed in principle to come to Vienna next month for the twenty-fifth anniversary of Austria's State Treaty, a Soviet Embassy spokesman said today.

The confirmation increased prospects for the first high-level meeting between the Soviet Union and the United States since the Russian invasion of Afghanistan last December.

The United States, Britain and France have already tentatively agreed to send their foreign ministers to Vienna next month before the ceremonies.—Reuter.

Austrian officials said they did not expect a final decision by the four governments on whether to send their ministers to Vienna until shortly before the ceremonies.—Reuter.

Austrian ultimatum over allegations of bribery

From Sue Masterman
Vienna, April 9.

Herr Leopold Grutz, Mayor of Vienna, has given an ultimatum to three leading civil servants, directors of the company which is building the city's new general hospital. By Thursday they must produce evidence to refute allegations of bribery and corruption made against them by the leading Austrian weekly magazine *Profil*, or take the consequences.

The accusations include the claim that one of the directors has taken 18m schillings (£600,000) commission on a contract signed with the big electronics firm Siemens. It is also said that a leading civil servant at the Ministry of Finance, also involved in the project, put pressure on the directors and the board of management to grant a valuable sub-contract to the firm which put in the highest bid, rather than the lowest tender.

Corruption scandals are part of everyday life in Vienna. What makes this one both interesting and potentially explosive is that it is indirectly involved. Dr Johannes Androsch, the Finance Minister and Vice-Chancellor, and Frau Ingrid Leodolter, the former Minister of Health.

When the new general hospital was first planned 20 years

ago the costs were estimated at between £75m and £100m.

Earlier this year a secret Treasury Control Department report was leaked, revealing the current estimated cost as £150m, which was also estimated that this might rise to £200m by the time the hospital, which had been built but is not yet equipped, is operational in 1988.

Investigations by the Austrian press led to letterbox companies in the Cayman and Seychelles which had obtained huge orders for advice which could not be documented and equipment which has yet to be delivered.

The press reported an increasing incidence of transactions involving two firms, Okodata and Consultatio.

Consultatio is a controversial tax consultant and accounts bureau owned by Dr Androsch.

A minority shareholder in Consultatio and a majority shareholder in Okodata is Dr Franz Bauer, a close friend and business associate of the Finance minister. Okodata received a £4m open contract from Frau Leodolter to devise a new structure for the Health Ministry.

Okodata has received orders worth more than £5m for planning the running costs of the new hospital. A substantial share of this work has been sub-contracted to Consultatio.

The Pope to address Unesco during visit to France

Rome, April 9.—The Pope announced today that he would visit France from May 30 to June 2 and would remain mostly in Paris.

He told a crowd in St Peter's Square that during the visit he would address Unesco on June 2.

"It will be a rapid trip during which I will have in the heart and anxiety of my soul the aspirations of all the inhabitants of the dear and noble French nation and also the high aims pursued by Unesco", the Pope said.

He said his trip, like previous journeys, would be "apostolic and pastoral" in nature. His visit to France will be the sixth trip he has made outside Italy since he was elected in October 1978. He is due to go to Africa on May 2 for 10 days.

In Paris, the Pope is expected to have talks with President Giscard d'Estaing while his address to Unesco, which is based in Paris, is likely to emphasize his desire for closer ties between the church and cultural developments.—Reuter.

OVERSEAS

Mr Carter wants full Palestinian autonomy

Washington, April 9.—President Carter and President Sadat met here again today and made progress in the effort to revive talks on Palestinian autonomy, an informed source said.

It was the last of Mr Sadat's summit meetings during this visit and officials were cautious about commenting on the meeting, pointing out that Mr Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, arrives here next week for talks which form part of the tripartite negotiations.

The source said, however, that the main idea of the "separate summits" was to give negotiators on Palestinian autonomy new instructions enabling them to meet in three or four weeks for unlimited five-hour talks.

In Egypt's view, Palestinian autonomy should apply fully to the territories the West Bank and Gaza Strip occupied by Israel after the six-day war in 1967.

Israel wants to limit the extent and powers of this "autonomous entity", seeing it as the nucleus of a future independent Palestinian state to which it is strongly opposed.

Observers do not know whether Mr Carter will be able to offer Mr Begin enough new proposals to bridge the Egypt-Israel gap.

Last night, at a White House dinner for Mr Sadat, President Carter hinted to Israel that it was necessary to go back to the basics of the Camp David agreement and permit full autonomy in the occupied territories.

Mr Sadat said today that recent developments in Iran, Afghanistan and the Gulf make it even more important to resolve the Palestinian question, "the core and crux" of the Middle East conflict.

Agence France-Presse and AP.

No compromises: Israel indicated in Jerusalem today that it is not ready to make compromises in negotiations on Palestinian autonomy.

The Cabinet told Mr Begin that he must adhere strictly to the terms of the Camp David accords during his talks with President Carter.

The decision apparently means that Israel is not ready to compromise on key differences of interpretation by the three sides.

An important point of contention is the extent of power to be granted a proposed council to be set up after autonomy is granted to the Palestinians.

Egypt demands that the council have legislative powers while the Israelis insist it get only limited authority.

Israel also wants to retain freedom of movement for its troops after autonomy.

However, there was far more recoverable coal than oil in the world, and it was likely that a change in price relatively making coal liquefaction economic would eventually take place.—Reuter.

Coal may lower cost of motor fuel

Rotterdam, April 9.—It will almost certainly be cheaper to make liquid and gaseous fuel from coal rather than from oil by the end of this century, a British-sponsored symposium on new coal technology was told today.

Dr Joseph Gibson, a member of the National Coal Board, said that new ways of processing coal were being developed which would make this possible. The technology for producing chemicals and motor fuels from coal had existed for more than 50 years, but the higher cost compared with oil use had made this largely uneconomic so far.

However, there was far more recoverable coal than oil in the world, and it was likely that a change in price relatively making coal liquefaction economic would eventually take place.—Reuter.

Former Shah leaves hospital for Cairo palace

Cairo, April 9.—The former Shah of Iran was discharged from hospital today and went to recuperate in the Kubbeh Palace, usually reserved for visiting heads of state.

Accompanied by Vice-President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, the Shah travelled in a convoy of 12 black limousines and an army ambulance. A team of Egyptian and American doctors had removed his enlarged spleen 12 days ago.

The Shah walked to the front door of the heavily guarded hospital in the Cairo suburb of Maadi and smilingly shook hands with the hospital staff.

Extra security precautions were taken inside and outside the hospital. Two armoured cars mounted with machine guns stood at the corner of the hospital and troops surrounded the entrances. It was not known how long the Shah would reside in the palace.

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The Shah is the first of its kind, but may be followed by others in countries not complying with the American appeal for solidarity in the embargo.

Iran has reopened a bureau part of its trade delegation attached to the Vienna embassy, to buy supplies to counter the effects of the American trade embargo. It is mainly buying food and spare parts.

The bureau is the first of its kind, but may be followed by others in countries not complying with the American appeal for solidarity in the embargo.

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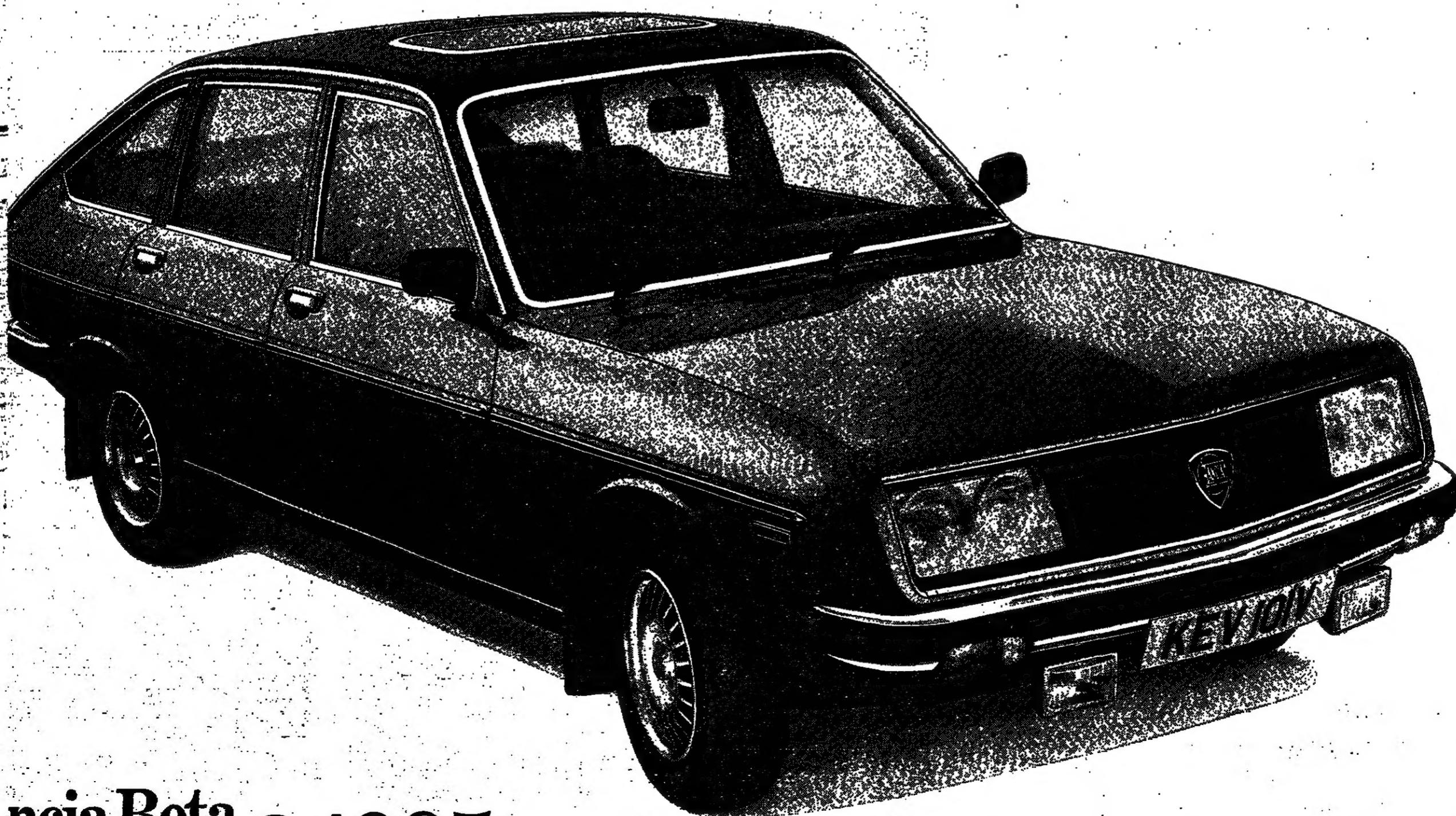
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Terms and conditions of the 6 year Corrosion Prevention Warranty are available on request.
The Saloon illustrated above shows some of the items you could have with your new Lancia Beta Saloon - they are not intended to represent all the accessories.

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To: Lancia Marketing Division; FREEPOST, PO Box 36, Hayes, Middlesex.
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SPORT

Football

Forest in good position as Francis causes havoc in Dutch ranks

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Nottingham F. 2 Ajax 0
For the fourth successive season a Football League club should appear in a European Cup final. Following Liverpool's well-known path, Nottingham Forest are in a strong position to retain the trophy in Madrid next month after disengaging themselves from the close marking of Ajax in the semi-final round, first leg at the City Ground last night.

Once again Francis was the key to their future. It was last year's winning goalscorer in the final who was in the right place to give them the lead in the first leg, and in the second, he scored the Ajax defence to concede a penalty that Nottingham gladly accepted. Since Forest have never been beaten in an away European match, they must be confident that they will have the opportunity to see whether Francis can repeat his performance. He has proved this season that his marking is no longer a bar to his talent. England will also benefit.

Ajax confronted Forest with an unusual tactical approach that was probably designed to make the most of their speed out of defence and experience in the air. In the first half, they were prepared to let only two players, Tahamata and La Ling, to occupy permanent attacking positions, wide on the touchlines. The support came through the front row, but this was occasionally impressive if not successful. Forest's attacking from the back, particularly by Anderson, was much more effective.

The early part of the Dutch plan was that while Forest built powerful, well-supported attacks, they moved forward sporadically, though with dangerous pace. Arnezen and La Ling exchanged passes in twinkle during one such counterattack before Forest overpowered them. The move was not repeated.

Schrijvers, the broad Dutch goalkeeper, had to cut out two threatening centres and Robertson shot diagonally across him as Forest gathered momentum. Then, in the second half, he was able to take advantage. By putting the ball back from the goal-line, he forced Zwamborn into a moment of panic. The defender controlled the ball with his hand and Robertson immediately moved to capitalise on it. The referee pointed in agreement and Robertson, ever reliable from there, scored his fourth penalty of the season.

Until then one had felt slightly apprehensive about the away leg.

One goal would not have been

much in the way of insurance

against a team possibly concealing some of their more outgoing

style and Ajax, who did not produce a harmful shot until the

seventy-fifth minute, were obviously concerned. Forest maintained

their concentration remarkably well.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: P. Shilton; Y. Anderson, F. Gray, J. McGovern, D. Wilson, D. Wilson, D. Bowring, J. Birtles, J. Francis, J. Robertson, P. Schrijvers, P. Wimber, C. Zwamborn, R. Krol, P. Borren, G. La Ling (sub. P. Bonank), H. Jenseen, S. Tahamata. Retired: A. Daina (Switzerland).

Forest's work was rewarded when a corner from Robertson was brough down by Lloyd and after a Dutch foot had tried to clear, Francis pushed the ball in, thus confirming his crucial position.

Francis's sprinting constantly unnervered and unbalanced Ajax who had few chances to establish a constructive pattern, and when Bowring caused the defence to collapse, Francis was again quick to take advantage. By putting the ball back from the goal-line, he forced Zwamborn into a moment of panic. The defender controlled the ball with his hand and Robertson immediately moved to capitalise on it. The referee pointed in agreement and Robertson, ever reliable from there, scored his fourth penalty of the season.

At the time, it seemed this must be the worst imaginable start, not just for Arsenal but for the entire tournament. But in fairness to Juventus they had almost deserved the lead. They opened positively, none more unsurely than Juventus' keeper, who was unable to stop the ball from the proceedings. The greying hair of Betegga gave him the sophisticated look of an international banker rather than a footballer, and certainly a candidate for a dirty work. Though only warned that he was last booked along with Tardelli (for the first time) and Causio, Sunderland was also booked. On a milder note, it is a pity that such talent is immediately condemned to the bench. The referee, however, should have resort to the hand rugging and shirt pulling that went on throughout this game, unnoticed by Mr Corver.

Arsenal fell behind after only

eleven minutes to a foolish goal typical in such an atmosphere.



Photograph by David Jones

High stepping: Sunderland volleys home but from an offside position.

Arsenal hopes begin to waver

By Clive White

Arsenal 1 Juventus 1

An Italian defensive job brought about more through accident than design for a change, may have halted Arsenal at the semi-final round in their quest for the European Cup Winners' Cup.

Probably no team in the world can

play this sort of game as well as the Italians and in particular Juventus.

The tactic were forced upon

them in the first leg at Highbury

when they threatened to surprise

us all with a more positive display.

Tardelli, who had all but

kidnapped Brady in those first 34

minutes, brought the Irishman

to his knees, but the goalkeeper

suddenly looked very old as he

failed to deny Cabrini a second

goal.

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Though only warned that he was

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(for the first time) and Causio,

the captain now picked up Brady's

scout line.

While always looking for a way

out in the first half, Juventus

ten men were forced to retreat

more and more by Arsenal's

driving ambition. This was not

the usual case of a British side

hurting itself desperately and

uselessly forward against a solid, well-

defended wall.

Juventus were fortunate at that

time to hold on to their lead as

Tardelli, with a low flying cour-

teous header, and Brady, with a

raising right footed shot, pinned

them back. Then Sunderland

climaxed a delightful move invol-

ving five Arsenal players out to

be judged offside. Mr Corver was

not Highbury's most popular

man. If Zola had not been

wrapping his hands around

Arsenal's aerial raids, he was

stopping them with his feet, as he

failed to do a good job by Stapleton.

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do the
layer's new ambition
retches over
the last four decades

John Hennessy
ma, Georgia, April 9
great debate is under way, or concerned, this week, on the Olympic boycott, residential primaries. All lightweight topics have been aside by the burning question of the hour—who will win?

of typewriters in the room of the Augusta and Al Club are chartering away, developing its own argument leading to a more or less conclusion. It is a harm- aces, one of which but less one. On this side of the land surprises occur so golf as to make solid on a lottery.

would have foreseen, for, that Sted (as dis- the legend goes) and his nephew, J. C., would be rendered stroke at each last three holes last year than the Masters? Or in a dozen all people, successful golf in the States these last three could be the first to yield re-man play-off? Or that (Fuzzy) Zoeller should one nowhere to take the

This is ordinarily the prerogative of Jack Nicklaus but it is surely now to see this as a sporting parallel to "The King is Dead, Long Live the King." Watson, one of the most thoughtful and articulate members of the professional golfing fraternity, has the neck up. The winning score, he thought, would be 278 which would be seven strokes outside the record established by Nicklaus in 1972 and equaled by Ray Floyd 1973 years later.

The course is not at its best because of the heaviest March rainfall in memory, which prevented the growth of new grass. The fairways have thus been denuded of their lush cover and the greens, even in their present compromised ravaged state—and it looked a picture under today's benevolent sunshinew—Watson regards the Augusta course as "better than anywhere else in its best."

Nicklaus has gone through his usual methodical preparation. He

Player has declared Ballesteros to be the best bet here (present company presumably excepted) because if his other choice, Lee Trevino, is destined to the course which tends to dominate the field, Trevino's natural inclination. Trevino, in spite of protestations to the contrary, seems to be in high spirits and should not be left out of circulation, especially as he seems set to be coming to terms with the draw.

Player has set himself a unique new target, a major title in one of four successive decades. His first was the British Open in 1959. This year he has won two more British championships, one United States Open, two United States PGA titles and three Masters, the last as recently as two years ago. In spite of his 44 years, who would

in "to say this new ambition is beyond his racing compass?"

The news gleamed from Britain at his own request. The draw had been installed as a 6-1 favourite, betting being illegal in these parts, met with general scepticism. His rise in recent years is such that he is being touted before the press a day or two ago to tell us: "How he reads it."

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Ballesteros: victory for the brooding Spaniard would cause the Americans to reexamine his merits.

was here practising for several days last week and then went home for the winter. Ballesteros came and of course stayed on further variation Ben Crenshaw arrived only on Monday night. Crenshaw, for the first time, is confident about every aspect of his game and could prove to be a potential new winner of the tournament.

At least a score of other players have their supporters, but nobody is daring enough, or perhaps foolish enough, to champion the cause of the three British players, Sandy Lyle, Mark James and Peter

McEvoy, an amateur. They are in the Zoeller class, and look what happened to him.

Lytle's strongest contender, is also out of sight in the afternoon. Last night he failed to regain his "feel" as he suddenly decided to have seven of his iron shafts replaced for greater flexibility. At practice today, it is a group including Crenshaw, he is regaining his iron shot but sadly his putter is still not up to scratch. He took himself to the practice ground for two hours to "learn" his new shafts. With what success we shall know soon enough.

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hidden face Augusta's admirers must read

Georgia, April 9.—foliage at the Augusta golf course, delayed by impetuous winter, is to enter full bloom in time for tomorrow's tournament. But, so perfect for the white and purple azalea and white dogwood, slow jasmine, are less to the grass, which seem slow to grow. If the course has fallen to normal high standards, and lay-out is still the stable test of precision put putting.

non-existent rough and seedy of us, at first, is not apparent, too difficult a course of challenges that usually ones who have studied the front nine is less, but than back nine as is as spectacular trouble, a. there are no water in its way, the outward

with birdies, but it also contains more potential hazards. Water comes into play at the three famous "Amen Corner" holes—the 11th, 12th and 13th—as well as at the 15th and 16th, and the greens at the 14th, 16th and 18th are just about the most difficult to read in the course.

The 13th is the shortest hole, only 155 yards long. But it can be the most fearsome, as Rae's Creek flows across the front of the green, bunkers line the back for the overhit shot and the wind tends to swirl around the hole.

"The wind is crucial," Watson says. "You have to hit it to wait for it to die down. And you have to hit the ball just as the wind starts dying down. If you wait for it to stop, it may spring up again."

Overall, Watson believes the pair

of greens hold the key to the tournament. Zoeller proved that last year, playing them in a total of 10-under-par—and his four-round score was eight under at 280.

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of greens hold the key to the tournament. Zoeller proved that last year, playing them in a total of 10-under-par—and his four-round score was eight under at 280.

The back nine is more generous

with birdies, but it also contains

more potential hazards. Water

comes into play at the three

famous "Amen Corner" holes—the

11th, 12th and 13th—as well

as at the 15th and 16th, and the

greens at the 14th, 16th and 18th

are just about the most difficult to read in the course.

The 13th is the shortest hole, only 155 yards long. But it can be the most fearsome, as Rae's Creek flows across the front of the green, bunkers line the back for the overhit shot and the wind tends to swirl around the hole.

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New Books

Insider outsider

Out of the Way

Later Essays

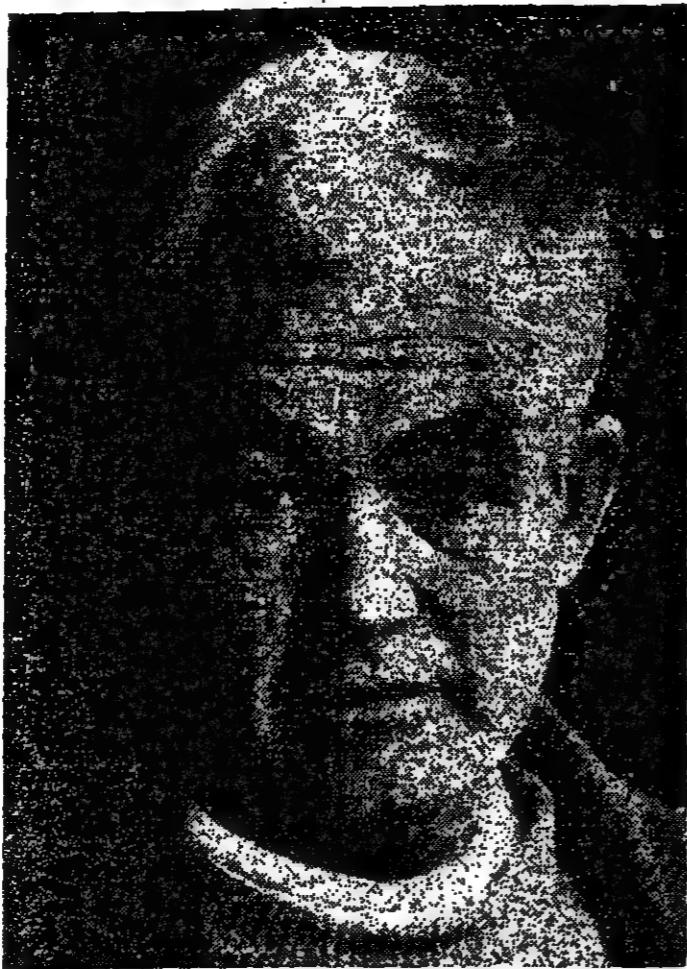
By Colin MacInnes

(Martin, Brian, and O'Keeffe, £9.50)

Except among his remarkable circle of off-beat, but ever faithful friends, Colin MacInnes—who died in 1976—still has an uncertain literary reputation. He is colourfully remembered as an Australian who spoke fluent French (he wasn't, but he did); a bohemian novelist; and an Angry Young Man of the late 1950's and early '60's writing about teenagers in Soho, prostitutes in Kilburn, and West Indians in Notting Dale ("The Hill" as he used to say with emphatic eyebrows). He was the tall, volatile figure in the tightly beaded blue anorak, the frequent wearer of late-night "caffs" and drinking clubs, and jazz spots, forever arguing, forever leaping into traps, forever going back to his latest project (twenty times in two decades). He was the man who might have been the English Genet, or Camus, or even Henry Miller; but who remained instead the slightly rained, slightly wide-eyed author of *City of Spades* (1957), *Absolute Beginners* (1959), and *Mr Love and Justice* (1960—all three now re-issued by Allison & Busby, at £6.50 each); short, essentially remarkable novels about London low-life, combining brilliant social documentation with organizingly dated dialogue and unlikely "character" narratives.

But with the publication of the posthumous collection of 45 long or mid-length articles (reprinted notably from *New Society*, the *Spectator*, and *Esquire*), MacInnes' reputation deserves to be transformed into something of a quite different kind and magnitude and seriousness. At a stroke it brings his talent into proper focus. It places him in a commanding position amidst the social and cultural debates of the Sixties—raising questions that are still with us fifteen or twenty years after, acute and unsolved. *Principal* among these are problems of racial misunderstanding and "post-Colonial" attitudes; difficulties of class and social prejudice; crime and the practical administration of justice; and perhaps most vital of all, the whole problem of national morale. MacInnes takes his stand on all these not really as a novelist at all, but as an essayist, an impassioned liberal commentator on our life and times.

The sheer range of subjects he brings within his compass, alone takes him far beyond the dated "Angry" dimension. There are, for example, outstanding pieces on the English War Artists; on contemporary religious experience, so much of it frustrated ("somewhere I feel—in Asia? Latin America? Africa? England?—the spirit is now pondering a thought that



Photograph by Jerry Bauer

Colin MacInnes.

will turn the world upside down yet once again"); on the English love of gardening, "the Green Art"; on women's equality; on the "New British" immigrants; and on the cult of Gilbert and Sullivan. His long essay on the "Criminal Society, 1961" is surely a classic; and his short autobiographical snapshots—"Nicked", "Going Ball", "Bankrupt"—reveal with quiet new authority and humour some of the actual material behind the early London novels.

"Impressed" commentator is not, perhaps, the *mot juste*. (There is a devastating piece on sloppy book reviewing.) A key to the MacInnes style is the insider-outsider effect, both identifying with his subject (in exact group, age, or detail of dress or social reflex) and simultaneously standing back from it, in thoughtful sadness—full of sense and kindness—delivered in a pensive bracket or brisk qualifying sentence. He is not in the hip, but for that matter hopped; not in the last Tom Wolfish. Long and formative periods spent abroad—in Melbourne, Brussels, and Gibraltar—perhaps account for this feeling of strangeness within intimacy. Nor was he ever really a young writer: born in 1914, he hit his stride in his early thirties.

The England he sees and looks back on was never really "swinging"; it is post-colonial, uneasy, self-conscious, cur-

iously lost. (One can detect the same note in John Fowles's *Daniel Martin*.) It is like a rose-tree that has been savagely pruned by outside events, and is putting forth a few tentative buds in odd and often awkward places.

It is because you love it that what seems to be blocking its growth and frustrating its beauty is so painful. *Reclite and Orwell*... may soon sour in their strictures about England. But it is not hard to detect, beneath their amorous, an unavoidable affection.

Ipsa dicit.

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Richard Holmes

Printing the legend

Empire

The Life, Legend, and Madness of Howard Hughes

By Donald R. Bartlett and James B. Steele

(André Deutsch, £9.50)

Maybe it is the sort of thing that should be left to Harold Robbins. Perhaps the lurid details of imagined conversations and activities with lovers could crack the wall of security and give the illusion

of insight into a life as complex and internal as that of Howard Hughes. Certainly nothing that has confined itself to available facts has been able to explain the man, not even any other of Hughes' biographers, and in their subtitle, "The Life, Legend, and Madness of Howard Hughes", there lurk two divisive commas that suggest that each aspect is separable, that the life is different from the legend, and that the madness was something added. What is clear from their revelations is that until the very end, when obsession and an addiction to cocaine had robbed Hughes of all rationality, his only purpose in living was to amplify the legend. In his withdrawal from society he made every effort to burnish his image as a pilot adventurer, financial wizard and dashing Hollywood filmmaker.

His celebrated telephone conversation with a roomful of reporters in 1972, when he refused Clifford Irving's fraudulent book which claimed to be an autobiography, is a clear demonstration of that single-minded purpose. Living at the time on a bed covered with paper towels meant to "insulate" him from germs, he brazenly denied any fear of contagion. Although still over 6ft tall, he then weighed less than a hundred pounds, had hair down his back and had grown his fingernails and toenails so long they curled upwards; he "scuffed", as the authors put it, at such suggestions.

Unable to determine much about Hughes as a man, they make a few psychological projections but settle for meticulous documentation of massive business failures, corruption, and internal power struggles hidden by his glow of success.

Necessarily, they skip over some of the scandalous material to concentrate on their favorite scandals or mysteries. They mention secret US contributions to Hubert Humphrey's presidential campaign, but only briefly, preferring to concentrate on suspicious land deals in Nevada which point to fraud near the top of the Hughes organization.

Their material on Hughes's health casts serious doubt over any description of his death as a natural one; but it is obvious that the wealth itself, dissipated as it was, continues to obscure the truth in many vital areas. Money was the real legend, and Hughes's insistence on being referred to as a billionaire showed his understanding of that. Madness and the factual details of life had little impact compared to the private fantasies of the public at the thought of such a fortune.

Admission is free and opening hours from 12 noon to 8 p.m.



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A terrible lesson

Dieppe 1942

By Ronald Atkins

(Macmillan, £6.95)

I remember with a stab of pain that August morning when the garbled news came to us, in the sands before Alamein, that "an allied force has landed in N.W. Europe". We felt like the American negroes singing, after the Emancipation Act, "Look it must be Kingdom Coming And de peur on Jubilee!"

But this was Jubilee, the code-name for a tragic blunder kept evergreen as "Dieppe". In retrospect August 19th, 1942, was Dieppe's contradictions, like Teuton's.

His honour rooted in dishonesty and faith unfaithful kept him

in the case of the excellent Jacques Mordal, French

A Fleet Street journalist and no professing historian, Mr Atkins seems to me to have scrupulously avoided the temptations of his craft. He is neither vulgarly dramatic nor breezily speculative: those who have read the Dieppe section in Anthony Carew Brown's *Bodyguard of Lies* will catch my drift. Balzac was as easily produce *cloches*, *Tarzan*, but Mr Atkins simply offers us within a sensible framework of fact, a litany of the lost and the lucky who lived. *Cinema verité* is not bad thing, and this plain tale, blood-drenched, by survivors' memories, is a useful contribution to a large literature.

He has missed one trick.

Aware that Gordon Rees was

Montgomery's personal liaison officer with the assault force

and, indeed, went along with it

he does not remark that in

a *Bundle of Sensations* Rees

drew, out of this experience,

one of the most penetrating and

sympathetic portraits ever com-

posed of the main least likely

to charm him. Here, at least

is one lesson to be learned

from Dieppe—about the Field

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Ronald Lewis

We are too prone to bemoan

Balzac's misery of whose

memory is only softened by

chronicles of courage and vain

self-sacrifice. As to that, Lord

Lover's recent memoirs vividly

recalled his commando's great

feat in capturing one of the

dominant German batteries.

Now Mr Atkins has retold the

whole story of the Dieppe

debâcle, treading in the foot-

prints of many predecessors—

British, Canadian, German and

him. In any case, Churchill's

decision to lure Hitler into

bombing London instead of

crossing the Channel, which is

not debated, had very little

effect on the unfortunate

Pole's judicial murder. More

interesting are documents

ratifying squalls at the sur-

viving actors of the tragedy

still alive and capable of legal

action in Lorraine as this

moment. But these are brief

and finally the book succeeds

by exciting our compassion

more than our sense of history.

Of human spine, human

buddiness, and human self-in-

terest, there may be no end;

but it is not only for the

young Pole and his decent,

silly lover that we feel pity.

There is a particularly mem-

orable portrait of a doomed Ger-

man pilot, having his wife for

her intention to betray their

neighbour even while he

makes love to her.

Jane Gardam has a quiet ele-

gance which more than makes

up for her deliberately small

cast of characters.

Perhaps the most remarkable

feature of the book is that

most of the characters are

alive and well.

The thesis behind Hoch-

huth's documentary novel is an

important one: that

Asking for more money: how the methods have changed ...



Harry Kerr

"Not a penny off the pay, not a minute on the day." That, believe it or not, was the slogan under my colleagues and I were employed at TUC in fight for miners' wages in 1926 General Strike which led to the 1926 General Strike. Not that our efforts were crowned success. Between 1921 and 1924 over a week was slashed off the wages of miners. The miners' months the collapse of the general strike, in the struggle at a heavy price in pay and working hours.

Then, it may be asked, are not wage reductions being imposed? The economic outlook is at least now as in the early 1920s and miners' wages are unemployed now by official statistics less comparable than those of today's wage with the current figures. An obvious explanation is of course, increased power of the unions. Not so they have more members and money than fifty years ago but the compass of their membership has led them to fuller appreciation potential of "industrial muscle" with which to defend their living standards. Nevertheless, even government sticks rigidly to aard pretence that wage negotiations concern only employers and their employees, and are as much the private

Baroness Wootton of Abinger contributes the first of a new weekly series of guest features.

business of the participants as is the haggling over the sale of a silk scarf between a tourist and a stallholder in an Oriental bazaar. So our rulers prefer to pay homage to the sacred cow of "free collective bargaining", while cutting living standards by such backdoor methods as the imposition of VAT and increased charges for transport, gas and electricity.

That, however, is not the whole story.

The premises on which collective bargaining rests are themselves changing from the purely economic to the mainly ethical.

Whereas in the preparation of wage claims we used to pore over company accounts in order to assess employers' ability to pay, the modern fashion is for claims to be expressed in terms of "fairness" as between one group's pay and that of others.

Indeed today negotiators often seem to be more concerned to keep their eyes on one another than to examine the state of their employers' balance sheets. Emphasis is laid on the plight of the low paid, while once unfamiliar phrases such as the "going-rate" are creeping into habitual use in the vocabulary of collective bargaining. Significantly also in the election campaign that precipitated his downfall, "fairness" was Edward Heath's favourite word in reference to his offer to the miners.

As yet, however, there is no accepted criterion of "fairness". In practice, unions with members in the lower ranges of the League Table of Industrial Earnings seek to reduce their distance from the median while those in the upper half, who may have slipped a few places downwards, assert their right to former rank—as witness the miners who, after losing ground in the early seventies, now reign proudly at the head of the official (April 1979) New Earnings Survey.

If everybody plays this game, the results must clearly be a continuous upward movement within a highly conservative pattern of relativities. As the Pay Board observed in 1974: "Collective bargaining as it is practised in this country has no mechanism for making enduring changes in the relative pay of miners in separate negotiating units". However, as long as the Clegg Commission on Comparability survives and defines comparability by what people do, not by what they are asked to do, it may be imposed on others at least in respect of the ethical aspects of wage patterns. Inevitably this means driving a coach and horses through the League Table but in so doing the Commission, we may hope, will facilitate the establishment of a pay structure which is both ethically defensible and economically viable.

That might be achieved by the imposition of a graduated excess income tax on any net increase of income (whether earned or unearned) over the previous year, with prescribed exemptions (eg for low pay, or small businesses) modelled on the procedure of the former Prices and Incomes Board.

Although this proposal would hardly be acceptable to a government whose first budget presented taxpayers with £4,610m annual additional spending money (£1,560m of it going to those with gross incomes over £10,000), might not Labour moderates find time to consider it in the intervals of planning the route of The Left? At least it would be a genuine incomes policy treating speculators and persons of independent means on the same terms as the employed population, who alone are now expected to limit increases in their incomes.

Barbara Wootton

Marcella Hazan's *Quicciatti* and dessert offerings have a ring of truth in their modesty when contrasted with the colourfully groaning tables and trolleys of Italian restaurants. Her instructions for making, cooking and serving pasta (too full to be quoted here) are the best I have come across, and her suggestions at the end of recipes of what might precede or follow them are a valuable aid to decision.

The recipes which follow are for a first and second course and a salad—mussel soup, mackerel with rosemary and garlic, and a salad of cooked courgettes. This would not serve more than olives or a few slices of good salami before the soup, and fresh fruit to end the meal.

This soup may be a midnight spaghetti snack after the theatre, a pizza and a glass of wine, a cool salad on a sultry summer noon. But an Italian

When at home, eat as the Romans do

The Times Cook



Shona

Crawford Poole

Indeed something else entirely: it is a many-layered experience far richer and more complete than that!

As she explains: "There is no main course to an Italian meal. With some very rare exceptions, such as asciutto with risotto, the concept of a single dominant course is entirely foreign to the Italian way of eating. There are, at a minimum, two principal courses which are never, never brought to the table at the same time.

"The first course may be

pasta either in broth or with sauce, or it can be a risotto or a soup. *Minestra*, which is the Italian for 'soup', is also used to mean the first course whether it is a soup or not.

This is because, to the Italian mind, the first proper course,

even when it has been preceded by *ombrasti* (hors d'oeuvres)

and even when it is sauced pasta or risotto, is still a soup in the sense that it is served in a deep dish and that it always precedes and never accompanies the meat, poultry or fish course.

"After there has been sufficient time to relish and consume the first course, to salute its passing with some wine, and to regroup the taste buds for the next encounter, the second course comes to the table. The choice of the second course is usually a development of the first.

The second course may also be true, when the first course is chosen in anticipation of what the second will be.

"The second course is often attended by one or two vegetable dishes which may sometimes develop into a full course of their own."

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fresh mussels scrub them very thoroughly in cold water with a stiff brush and pull or cut off the tuft of beard clenched by each one. Throw away any with broken shells, and any which feel much lighter or heavier than the rest.

The recipe calls for Italian wholemeal bread which is not widely available, so substitute another kind, or leave out the toasted bread and serve hot crusty rolls or bread separately.

Mussel soup

Serves four

2 cloves garlic, peeled and chopped

6 tablespoons olive oil

1 tablespoon coarsely chopped parsley

225g (8oz) tinned Italian tomatoes, drained and chopped

1th teaspoon chopped or powdered chilli

900g (2lb) fresh mussels, cleaned and scrubbed

4 slices Italian wholemeal bread, *pane integrale*, toasted and (optional) rubbed with garlic

Courgette salad

Serves four to six

6 small to medium courgettes

3 large cloves of garlic peeled and crushed

8 tablespoons olive oil

2 in 3 tablespoons red wine vinegar

2 tablespoons chopped parsley

Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

Soak the courgettes in cold water for 10 minutes then scrub them thoroughly. Bring to the boil, then drop in the courgettes. Cook at a moderate heat until they are coloured slightly. Add the parsley, stir once or twice, then add the cut-up tomatoes and the chopped chilli. Cook, uncovered, at a gentle simmer for about 25 minutes, or until the tomatoes and oil separate.

Add the mussels, cover the casserole, raise the heat to high, and cook until the mussels open their shells, about 3 to 5 minutes. To get all the mussels to cook evenly, grasp the casserole with both hands, holding the cover down tight, and shake it sharply two or three times.

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When done, drain, cut off the heads and tails. While they are still hot, rub the flesh with the crushed garlic.

Arrange the courgettes, flesh side up, in a single layer on a dish. Prop up the dish at one end so that while the courgettes cool any excess liquid will gather at the other end. Do not refrigerate.

When the courgettes are cool, discard the liquid from the dish, and season with oil, vinegar, parsley and about eight whole mussels. The mussels make mackerel's robust flavour gentler and very appealing.

Mackerel with rosemary and garlic

Serves four

6 tablespoons olive oil

4 cloves garlic, peeled

4 mackerel about 350g (12oz) each, cleaned but with heads and tails on

Soak the mackerel in cold water for 10 minutes then scrub them thoroughly. Bring to the boil, then drop in the courgettes. Cook at a moderate heat until tender but not soft and easily pierced by a fork, about 30 minutes, more or less.

When done, drain, cut off the heads and tails. While they are still hot, rub the flesh with the crushed garlic.

Arrange the courgettes, flesh side up, in a single layer on a dish. Prop up the dish at one end so that while the courgettes cool any excess liquid will gather at the other end. Do not refrigerate.

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A warning in *Quicciatti* to prospective buyers of *The Classic Italian Cookbook*. Contrary to reasonable assumption it contains no recipe for pizza. But of pizza, more next week.

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Gregory Treverton on Soviet military miscalculations and their possible consequences

A flaw in the Kremlin master plan

It is more and more obvious that the Soviet Union miscalculated in its invasion of Afghanistan, underestimating both the difficulty of gaining control on the ground and the international reaction, especially by Muslim and Third World countries. It is also striking how badly the Russians have played the question of theatre nuclear forces (TNF). President Brezhnev's speech of last October was too little and too late as an attempt to prevent NATO from going ahead with its December decision to deploy long-range cruise and ballistic missiles in Western Europe.

Seeing the Russians miscalculate is a useful antidote to common images of the men in the Kremlin coldly unfolding a grand strategic plan. We know that our own politicians spend most of their time worrying about prices, budgets and local services. But sometimes we sound as though Soviet leaders, faced with even more daunting internal problems, spend all the time plotting at a global chessboard. We also know the bumbling of our own leaders, and it would be surprising in-

deed if their Russian counterparts, men surrounded by numbing bureaucracy and imprisoned in their own propaganda, did not make mistakes of their own from time to time.

Yet it is important to consider the rigidities that breed Soviet mis-steps and to think about implications for the next round of Soviet policy. Moscow probably has not made up its own mind how to respond to its dilemma in Afghanistan or how to play TNF. Nor is it likely to do so soon.

Western commentary on the SS-20 missile illustrates the problem of interpreting Soviet miscalculations. The SS-20 is often seen as a mistake, having cost Moscow more than it was worth. To deploy a new and very capable missile for use against Western Europe just when Americans were fretting over the nuclear balance, hence Europeans worried over the credibility of the United States nuclear guarantee to Europe, was almost to assure just the outcome the Soviet Union wanted to prevent. The SS-20, more than anything else, helped

public opinion in Western Europe choke down NATO's December decisions on theatre nuclear forces.

However, that assessment risks a serious error in timing. Given the lead times, the final decision to produce and deploy the SS-20 would have been taken in the late 1960s or early 1970s, not the mid 1970s. In the earlier period the Soviet logic no doubt was straightforward: the existing Soviet intermediate-range systems, the SS-4s and SS-5s; SALT I left such systems unstrained; new technology for a successor, the SS-20, existed; so why not build it?

Even if Soviet leaders had begun to have second thoughts about the political wisdom of the SS-20 by the time it was ready to be deployed, in 1977, there was powerful momentum behind it. At that point, foregoing or curtailing it would have meant acting against a military programme well down the track, something Western governments, let alone Moscow, find hard to do. That is one reason why Moscow has played the TNF issue so badly.

Using a high card before NATO's December decisions—such as announcing a freeze on the SS-20 deployment—was hard. It ran against ingrained habit and military interest and moreover, it may have seemed unnecessary. Moscow may have been persuaded that a lower card, such as the vague offer of negotiations made by Brezhnev in October, would suffice to stop NATO. Men in the Kremlin may still do calculate for at least those responsible for the early approach have reason still to say that time will validate it.

That suggests that the Soviet Union will not make forthcoming moves on TNF this year. Moreover, they must calculate that TNF can only be negotiated with the United States and fear that any higher card played this year would only be lost or taken for granted by the administration elected in 1981. What we can expect from Moscow is more of the same, short of a substantive move: efforts to enlist European neutrals in a campaign against the NATO plan, plus attempts to break particular NATO coun-

tries away from the Alliance decision.

Similarly, it is hard to imagine that the Soviet leadership has come to a settled view of what its trouble over Afghanistan imply for its next actions. Certainly the immediate aftermath of the invasion suggests the Russians were surprised. In their view, sending Sakharov into internal exile may still do calculate for the early approach have reason still to say that time will validate it.

The actions we see now almost certainly do not represent firm Soviet decisions and it would be unwise to read too much into them. That is a particular pitfall at this stage in the life cycle of a crisis when, predictably, some Western opinions are worrying that we might have over-reacted and are searching for signs of a more constructive Soviet attitude. But recent Soviet proposals, such as a conference on access to Persian Gulf oil, are part propaganda, kicking us up dust to take the world's eyes off the Soviet action, part balloon.

On both Afghanistan and TNF, the Soviet Union will delay firm decisions because decision-making in the Kremlin takes time even without informed leaders and because the international environment must look at least as uncertain to Russia as it does to us.

The author is assistant director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, London.

Bernard Levin

The joy of shedding their chains

If it is true, and I cannot see how it could not be, that a tree must be known by its fruit, the followers—he calls them *neo-sannyasins*—of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh are in general an exceptionally fine crop, bearing witness to a tree at a choice, rare nature. The first quality a visitor to Rajneesh's ashram notices—and he never ceases to notice it—is the ease and comfort with which they wear their faith. Though they are unshakably convinced (I met only one with any residual doubt) that Rajneesh has enabled them to find a meaning for their lives and for their place in the universe, there was no trace of fanaticism in them, and in most not even fervour. A prominent British journalist would have been a considerable catch for them, and they were plainly aware of it, for the efficiency and thoroughness with which they met all my requests, answered all my questions and showed me all I wanted to see, made it quite clear that the administrative side of the enterprise is fully aware of the world outside and of the way it runs; whatever else these people are, they are not spiritual negligees. But if they would have been pleased to land me, there was never a glimpse of a net; the hours of talk were absolutely free of any proselytising. They have truly understood what Rajneesh meant by the words I quoted yesterday: "If you go to Hell willingly, you will be happy there; if you are forced into Paradise you will hate it."

The joy with which they are clearly filled is in anyone who listens to Rajneesh must deduce it would be directed outwards as well as in: I cannot put it better than in saying that they constantly extend to each other and to strangers, the hands of love, though without the ego-filled demands of love as most of the world knows it. They have shed their chains, and they demonstrated their freedom easily and unobtrusively, though the results at first can be startling: a young married couple I met spoke within ten minutes of a marital problem not usually discussed before strangers for indeed at all, yet there was no exhibitionism or inverted vanity involved, only the innocent naturalness of the nakedness in Eden before the fall.

The encouragement of this discovery is also the purpose of the therapy-groups and the various forms of "dynamic meditation". Liberation from the ego must start with liberation from the layers of self-consciousness in which we are wrapped, as in the "suffocating" (I don't think Omar Khayyam would have noticed much of the suffocating teaching in it, mind you) that consisted of some simple (though for simply spontaneous, step and movements, with constant change of partners and such exercises as pausing to look into the eyes of neighbours. I was dragged onto the floor by one of my new-found friends ("You don't have to do anything!") and even this limited experience of the dismember-

ing process made me see its necessity and efficacy.

There is irony, of course.

At some point, "into" this or that technique; asked what he had been before coming to the ashram, one young man replied, not "a musician" but "I moved in music" energy". Clearly it had never occurred to any of the full-hearted, long-haired men that they were unconsciously trying to resemble Rajneesh; instead, there was much easy talk of the difficulty of shaving in cold water and the poor quality of Indian razor blades. (For that matter, it did not require psychic gifts to see that many of the women are plainly in love with Rajneesh.)

They are, as I say, free of doubt; but, as they wear their certainty like a nimbus, not a sword. A Canadian girl I met had an ease and naturalness that were like magic; she made me want to hug her, though I hardly need say I didn't. (Only afterwards did I realize that if I had done so she would have taken the gesture for no more than it was: an innocent salute to her almost incredible vitality.) Even more relaxed was the formidable Laxmi, one of the only two people who ever see Rajneesh alone; she is the administrative head of the enterprise, and she glows with a force that nearly knocked me down. And she was the first to say, in answer to my question as to what Rajneesh spoke to them, that when he regarded them as God, I invited her to "abandon and say, willingly did, but if he is God, he is a very undefined one, and certainly in his discourses there is no hint even of "Who say ye that I am?". only a power-

ful sense that he is a conduit along which the vital force of the universe flows. (One of the ashram-dwellers, when I asked the same question—what do you regard Rajneesh as?—put it impressively in two words: "A reminder.") But there is no doubt that Rajneesh is regarded, at the very least, of being possessed of psychic powers. He never leaves his quarters, except

for the morning discourses (the

evening gatherings are held on a terrace abutting on to his rooms, and he has even given up his former practice of walking in his private garden); when I asked why he never looked in on the various groups to see how the work was going, the reply, immediate and without affectation, was, "But he does—only not in the body". He speaks for himself at the daily discourses, of course, and for the rest of the time Laxmi speaks for him. In my second visit, however, last week, I could almost have wished she had not, for she said me of his view that Mahatma Gandhi was wrong, in his attempt to break the hideous grim of the caste system, to call the "Unmentionables" Haridhans, meaning "Children of God", for this

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THE ALLIES' RESPONSE

President Carter has now asked his allies to support in taking economic and diplomatic measures against Iran. As so he has presented with some very difficult issues. Most of them have a deal of sympathy for him, issue and great respect for him with it. Most are also aware of the need for the to show much more than it has shown in months. The desire to help, spread, and none can agree with any pleasure of Washington, increasingly lonely and in. But there are sincere and disagreements over analysis of the situation in and the best way of doing it. Arguments for sanctions are strong. As President has pointed out, the Government's refusal to use of the hostages he opportunity was open a new situation in which verment must now be responsible. To break diplomatic relations with a which violates conventions is in itself logical. To put economic on a government which ally detaining American is also well within the of correct behaviour. But it necessarily follow that tern alliance must go the lay down the same road.

are three main is. Are such sanctions possible? Would they achieve ied effect? And should on either score be sub to an overriding need lance solidarity? The to the first question is my countries face serious political problems in

imposing economic sanctions, especially without instructions from the United Nations Security Council. They are also liable to face significant trading losses if the sanctions are not supported by other developed countries, including especially Japan. They must also think of their own citizens in Iran (there are at least a thousand Italians, for instance, and hundreds of Germans, French and British) who might be exposed to reprisals.

The problem of effectiveness is still more difficult to calculate. It seems unlikely that the present system of government in Iran can last a long time, but nobody can tell what will follow it. There could be a shift towards the middle class intelligentsia, or there could be a further economic decline and disintegration followed by the emergence of either a military dictatorship or a left wing regime that could turn to the Russians for support. Economic pressure may, if it can be made effective, hasten change but it can scarcely control the direction of change. If it were accompanied by an almost complete withdrawal of western representation it would be more likely to turn change in an anti-western direction and make the recovery of western influence more difficult. If this happened the west would have damaged its long term interests in a crucial area for the sake of a probably vain attempt to hasten the release of the hostages.

President Carter and the American public must therefore understand that the debates now unfolding among their allies derive neither from the lack of desire to help nor, as was partly the case after the invasion of Afghanistan, from short-sightedness in the face of a threat to all, but from genuine doubts

about the best way to help. The imperatives of solidarity do not require the allies to give automatic support to all American policies. What they require is automatic help for the United States, which is not the same thing.

There are a number of ways in which the allies can help at this stage. The first is to try to rally opinion in the third world and especially in Islamic countries, many of which have already indicated that their sympathy for the Iranian revolution stops well short of support for the holding of the hostages. If any outside opinion will influence the Iranian regime at the moment Islamic opinion is more likely to do so than American and European opinion. Secondly, and in parallel, it is time to go back to the United Nations. Thirdly, America's allies can use the diplomatic channels they still have to represent President Carter's genuine desire for a fair solution and a resumption of normal relations and at the same time feed back their own analyses of the Iranian situation.

Last, but far from least, they must demonstrate that they are in fact allies of the United States, which means that they must accede to some of President Carter's requests and not rule out the possibility of acceding to more as time goes by. The list of proposed measures, both economic and diplomatic, can be taken gradually and selectively. Anything less would deepen bitterness in the United States, reduce European influence over American policies, and leave Iran and the world with the very dangerous lesson that diplomatic conventions and American interests can be challenged with impunity.

ARDIANS OF THE CURRICULUM

I may not have the time it once did in the professional conduct; but that the National Teachers gave on to Mr Mark Carlisle, been invited to address a clearly contradicted the made earlier in the day conference that the hip of a teacher with his as comparable to that of with his patient or with his client. The of a minority made the look embarrassingly in assembly of mature ho could safely be given in judging how and the children of Britain e taught.

spoke of the non-national framework for curriculum which he means, sultations, to prepare for of teachers and education authorities. After anstigent motion passed by the conference, it is see the largest teachers' king any very construction in those consultations, of the speakers in the howed an uncompromis- of any attempt to with their professional t of the needs of the

children in their care. This is not a position that is tenable either in law or in the light of common sense, and by clinging so, inflexibly to their claimed prerogatives, the teachers risk shaking public confidence in their motives.

The tradition here has been to give teachers a much freer hand in determining the method and content of education than is common in many other countries. It was therefore natural, when disquiet gathered in the 1970s about the quality of education in the state schools that much of the blame should be attributed to the teachers themselves. This generated a defensive spirit which can, as in this instance, shade into irrationality. It is true that various political and economic influences have harmfully affected the development of state education, quite apart from the influence of the teachers themselves. But since they have, in practice, such a wide discretion, it is difficult for them to disclaim all blame.

A curricular framework on the lines proposed by the Government offers little threat to the main areas of freedom that teachers cherish. It is far from being authoritarian or centralist;

indeed, it is more likely to strengthen the hand of the local education authorities than of the Department. On the level at which it is drawn, the teachers' fears of political control are quite unwarranted; nor does it introduce any change of principle which would give substance to such fears. Since it is almost without detail, it verges at times uncomfortably close to being a collection of educational clichés.

The number of schools whose practice diverges significantly from its recommendations (except, perhaps, for pupils in the last two years of compulsory education) must be small. But insofar as the proposals would encourage teachers, governors and education authorities to make concerted effort to assess their priorities in relation to resources, their effect should be helpful, even to the teachers themselves. Such assessments will become increasingly important as declining numbers of secondary pupils make more difficult the provision of wide range of subjects outside the central core. These decisions should not be made haphazardly, and they cannot properly be made by teachers alone, any more than they can without them.

GIUM'S LANGUAGE BARRIER

is now plunged into a ideal crisis, like so many he result of its language ces. Mr Martens has his government's resign King Baudouin has it, and a round of cons will now begin in an to find a solution. To der it is bound to seem unending process that a under way for many which politiciansicker themselves and the basic he differences between who speak French and he speak Dutch, remains. But Belgium is not country which has per language differences, and differences elsewhere have deep roots. Questions of, affecting as they do in education, deal the administration, and, are of great personal ce. It is Belgium's mis that mistrust between language groups runs one agrees that a new structure is needed, way with the unitary syst. Belgium has had for so creates a new pattern ions between the three entities. Dutch-speaking

Flanders, French-speaking Walloonia and the primarily French-speaking Brussels. As a result of an all-party agreement in 1977, known as the Egemont Pact, it appeared that a solution had been found, a federal system in which each of the three would be given extensive powers, including its own parliament and its own executive. But this arrangement was not liked by many Flemings, who objected to the fact that two of the three regions would be primarily French-speaking, when the Flemings were a majority in the country as a whole. So since 1977 there have been difficulties about putting the agreement into effect, and the latest of them has led to the fall of Mr Martens's government.

Certain Flemish members of Mr Martens's coalition were insisting that Flemings should be given equal representation with French-speakers in Brussels, although they are very much a minority. The French-speaking parties replied that this would only be possible if the same equal parity was given to French-speakers in the suburbs around Brussels; these suburbs are officially Dutch-speaking, but have long been a bone of contention

because of the number of French-speakers in them. But this demand was in its turn unacceptable to the Flemings.

Underlying this manoeuvring is the fact that both communities feel on the defensive. The Flemings are still smarting under the indignities of the past, when French was the only official language throughout the country; since they are usually prepared to learn French, while the French-speakers are rarely prepared to learn Dutch, they feel that their language is not fully accepted. The French-speakers, on the other hand, see the greater wealth of Flanders and its bigger population, and feel that they are being taken over, particularly in Brussels. On both sides there are extremists who talk of total separation, and there are occasional outbreaks of violence, as there was in the eastern part of the country last month.

So far the traditional *bon sens belge* has prevented the tensions from getting out of hand, or from disrupting Belgium's relations with the world around it. But it might be thought that this same good sense might at last work out a solution that would, with a little give and take, be generally acceptable.

hand State

ebdinary John Pearce Reverend Tom Stack (April 2) of the Roman Church, of disestablishing our own church as an "evangelical". Let it be said loudly early that a great many cal members of the Church and believe in the value of the association of Church and d are committed to preserving this principled. There may be various which this link can be ex- our own is by no means actor, establishment may be sought a group but this "cause" be an evangelical one. In a nation to the ravages of set neither advances the nor demonstrates Christian labour-love.

There are many of us who thank God for the example of our Queen in her devotion to our Lord, for the role of Parliament in saving us from the worst excesses of ecclesiasticism and for the maintenance of biblical insights through clerical sub- scription to the Articles and Prayer Book.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN PEARCE,

All Souls' Vicarage,

Ovbury Street, E5.

Southend East by-election

From Miss Enid Lakeman

Sir, Mr Pavley is doubtless right in saying (April 2) that Tedd Taylor was not "foisted upon" those who selected him as the Conservative candidate in the by-election. But the 12 members of the selection com-

mittee and even the larger numbers in the other committees involved are a very small fraction of the 22,413 people who voted Conservative in that constituency last May, to say nothing of the whole 57,000 whom the MP is supposed to represent. They may well have felt that they were having a stranger foisted upon them and they may very well have been a reason why nearly half of them stayed at home.

This is not the fault of the Southend East Conservative Association—except in so far as it supports an electoral system which allows the voters no possibility of choosing the person they want to represent them.

Yours faithfully,

ENID LAKEMAN,

Director,

The Electoral Reform Society of Great Britain and Ireland,

6 Chancery Street,

Southwark, SE1.

about the best way to help. The imperatives of solidarity do not require the allies to give automatic support to all American policies. What they require is automatic help for the United States, which is not the same thing.

There are a number of ways in which the allies can help at this stage. The first is to try to rally opinion in the third world and especially in Islamic countries, many of which have already indicated that their sympathy for the Iranian revolution stops well short of support for the holding of the hostages. If any outside opinion will influence the Iranian regime at the moment Islamic opinion is more likely to do so than American and European opinion. Secondly, and in parallel, it is time to go back to the United Nations. Thirdly, America's allies can use the diplomatic channels they still have to represent President Carter's genuine desire for a fair solution and a resumption of normal relations and at the same time feed back their own analyses of the Iranian situation.

Last, but far from least, they must demonstrate that they are in fact allies of the United States, which means that they must accede to some of President Carter's requests and not rule out the possibility of acceding to more as time goes by. The list of proposed measures, both economic and diplomatic, can be taken gradually and selectively.

Anything less would deepen bitterness in the United States, reduce European influence over American policies, and leave Iran and the world with the very dangerous lesson that diplomatic conventions and American interests can be challenged with impunity.

The response to Soviet expansion

From Professor Louis Halle

Sir, One may plausibly speculate that, on the historical record, the Atlantic community will be found to have been disastrously shortsighted in its sluggish response to Russia's conquest of Afghanistan, now under way. This prompts the following attempt to place the event in historical perspective.

For over a thousand years, since the foundation of the Kiev state in the ninth century, Russia has been expanding, despite temporary setbacks, as it has at last become the *immense empire* that is still expanding today. It would be wrong to attribute this expansion to evil motives. On the contrary, it has been a defensive expansion based on the insecurity of a nation surrounded by enemies and lacking natural geographical defences as are provided by coastline or mountain ranges. Invaded from one side or another for a thousand years, suffering massacre and devastation in almost every generation, the nation has had no other recourse than to push the hostile and encircling foreigners ever farther back. So the empire has grown, and so the Russian state, after a millennium of such bitter experience, has become paranoid. This is not something the rest of the world can change by its own behaviour except over historical time.

Russia's defensive expansion has, in modern times, become an increasing threat to its neighbours and, at least to the world at large. This became manifest in the conclusion of the Second World War, when the expansion was abruptly curtailed, three-quarters of the way toward the English Channel from the former Russian frontier. The alarm this caused prompted the formation of the present North Atlantic coalition to contain "Russian expansive tendencies"—as Mr George Kennan put it in his original formulation of the containment policy. This is to say that it was in response to a balance-of-power crisis that the containment policy was adopted and the coalition formed.

In like fashion, similar coalitions carrying out similar policies had arisen to contain the "expansive tendencies" first of Napoleon's France and then of Hitler's Germany, their purpose being to restore the balance of power and the associated stability that had been achieved by 1963, is again being upset.

One does not have to be alarmist to conclude that Washington's attempt to rally the rest of the world, when the Russian invasion began, was justified. What this observer had not expected was the failure of so much of the world to respond. Not only Karachi, but even Bonn appeared to be afraid of provoking Russia. Both Bonn and Paris seemed to assume that weakness rather than strength was what would save the cherished *détente*.

It is hard to reconcile this with the wisdom one had attributed to the statesmen involved.

The historic weakness of defensive coalitions has been that they don't form or bestir themselves until too late to avoid major disaster.

See how long it took the coalition against Napoleon to form and become effective. Few now doubt that a determined attitude by France and Britain alone in 1936, when Hitler invaded the Rhineland, would have stopped him and averted World War II. But what was done was always too little too late. Must we wait for another 1939 before the resolution of the Atlantic coalition, and the other countries sharing the common interest, comes to the sticking point?

I submit that civilization could not survive another 1939 and its aftermath.

Yours faithfully,

LOUIS J. HALLE,

Place des Ternes 1,

CH-1204 Genève,

Switzerland.

April 1.

Threat from nuclear arms

From Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir William Dickson

Sir, I thank Lord Brockway and his co-Chairmen for their reply (April 2) to my letter (March 31). They set out clearly and fairly what are the disarmament objectives of the UN General Assembly and of all responsible governments. They also point out, what the prominent advertisement in *The Times* of March 28 had already made clear, that the speech and the convention to be held on April 12 in London is a sponsored by the "World Disarmament Campaign".

What that letter does not mention is which the advertisement is consciously and firmly based on the support of the British CND campaign against the British nuclear deterrent and against Nato deterrent policies. So one cannot support one without supporting the other.

It is good that all responsible nations should meet together to consider what steps they might initiate towards the objectives of the UN Assembly. But all people of sound judgment know that there is no prospect of any progress towards a practical scheme for world nuclear disarmament without the full participation and genuine cooperation of the Soviet block.

Yours faithfully,

W. F. DICKSON,

Foxbury House,

Cold Ash,

Rerkshire.

April 4.

A matter of dignity

From Mr J. F. Dore

Sir, I trust that Mr Fletcher's letter (April 3) will prompt members of Parliament on the government benches to look more closely at the Chancellor's proposals to cut the increase in invalidity benefit by 5 per cent and make it subject to tax.

Invalidity benefit is, in general, payable to people who are incurably ill or permanently disabled, after they have exhausted their entitlement to sickness benefit. Mr Reg Prentice, when interviewed on the BBC programme for the disabled, *Does he take Sugar?*, said he thought it was unjustifiable for a taxpayer, part of whose income consisted of invalidity benefit, to pay less tax than another with the same amount of income but wholly derived from taxable sources. May I suggest that this view is at least open to question?

A taxpayer who is incurably ill or permanently disabled has to pay to have things done for him which his fit and able-bodied counterpart would normally do for himself. When his home needs redecoration, or a minor repair is necessary, he must employ and pay someone to do the work; the benefits of do-it-yourself are not for him. Furthermore, anyone who has to retire prematurely because of ill health suffers a permanent and often substantial reduction in his occupational pension if he is fortunate enough to be entitled to one.

Under the existing rules, the tax-free invalidity pension may continue to be drawn in lieu of the taxable

redundancy pension until age 70. I can think of no administrative reason for this and feel it must have arisen from the deliberate decision of a compassionate government having regard to the fact that a fit and able-bodied person may earn a quite substantial amount without affecting his retirement pension, an option not open to the sick or disabled. It would be in the sick or disabled for the Government to do this.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN DORE,

Gables East,

Sellindge,

Kent.

April 4.

Tobacco advertising

From Mrs E. M. Shepherd

Sir, Since non-smokers now outnumber smokers by two to one (survey reported in *The Times* (April 8), page 4), surely it would be reasonable for the Government to have tobacco removed from the list upon which the retail price index is based.

There would be no problem about raising excise duty in order to discourage consumption, as your leading article suggests.

Yours faithfully,

E. M. SHEPHERD,

30 Barnmore Road,

Rugby.

April 8.

Letters to the editor

LETTERS TO



The low tar cigarette.

VENTILATED FILTER
BENSON and HEDGES
KING SIZE

LOW TAR As defined by H.M. Government

H.M. Government Health Departments' WARNING:
CIGARETTES CAN SERIOUSLY DAMAGE YOUR HEALTH

SC076

19/11/1980

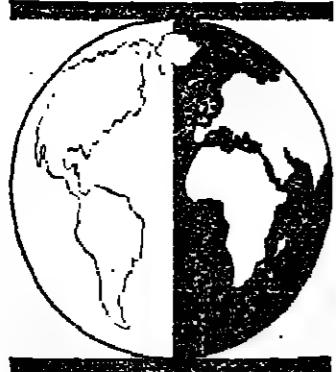
Stock Exchange Prices

Gilts set firmer tone

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, March 24. Dealings End, April 11. 5 Contingency Day, April 14. Settlement Day, April 21

5 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

1979/80 High Low Stock	Int. Gross Price Chg/peice	Yield % P/E	1979/80 High Low Company	Div Price Chg/peice	Yield % P/E	1979/80 High Low Company	Div Price Chg/peice	Yield % P/E	1979/80 High Low Company	Div Price Chg/peice	Yield % P/E
BRITISH FUNDS											
COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL											
A - B			A - B			A - B			A - B		
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	AAH	140	14	10.6	14.1	11	AAH	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	AGB Research	140	14	8.88	13.4	11	AGB Research	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alford Prod	140	14	10.6	14.1	11	Alford Prod	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	APV Hldgs	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	APV Hldgs	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Aarons Bros	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Aarons Bros	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	ADM	140	14	10.133	14.863	219	ADM	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	ADM	140	14	8.962	13.064	220	ADM	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	ADM	140	14	12.203	15.198	221	ADM	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Aero Needles	140	14	5.57	13.21	71	Aero Needles	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Aerix Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Aerix Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alex	140	14	9.4	13.9	14	Alex	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alloy Alum US	140	14	10.006	13.245	102	Alloy Alum US	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Allen V	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Allen V	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Allied Collabs	140	14	12.203	15.198	221	Allied Collabs	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Allied Plast	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Allied Plast	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alpine Hldgs	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alpine Hldgs	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alps A	140	14	4.3	11.8	14	Alps A	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Group	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Group	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	5.57	13.21	71	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	9.4	13.9	14	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	10.209	14.464	91	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561	13.245	Alwest Ind	140	14	8.885	13.075	102	Alwest Ind	140	14
95% Tres 1980 890	9.561</td										



Gross value of China's output to rise 5.5 pc

The gross value of China's industrial and agricultural output will rise 5.5 per cent in 1980 to over 650,000m yuan (almost £189,000m).

Mr Li Renjun, vice-minister of the state planning commission, told the standing committee of the Fifth National People's Congress in Peking that industrial output would rise 6 per cent from the 1979 figure of 459,000m yuan and agricultural production 3.8 per cent from last year's 158,000m yuan.

The New China News Agency quoted him as saying that it was necessary to further develop import and export, expand economic exchanges with foreign countries, expand production of export commodities in all parts of the country, and import more advanced technology.

Warning for French

Tighter credit will quickly curb the economic expansion which France has enjoyed during the first quarter of 1980, the French Employers' Federation said in Paris.

Tokyo car sales fall

Japan's imported car sales in March declined by 29.5 per cent to 5,417 from 7,678 the year before. The Japan Automobile Importers' Association said the main reason for the continued decline was the yen's depreciation, causing an increase in import prices.

Austrian prices up

Austria's wholesale price index for March stood at a preliminary 115.5 per cent, 0.8 per cent above February and 1.1 per cent above March 1979, according to the central statistical office in Vienna.

W German index

West Germany's February industrial production index was unchanged from January according to the economics ministry in Bonn.

More Soviet steel

The Soviet Union will produce 58 per cent more steel than the United States by 1995, a turnaround from the mid-1960s, when America produced 30 per cent more, according to a Cleveland-based market research company.

Fewer unemployed

Canadian seasonally adjusted unemployment was 7.4 per cent in March, unchanged from February, but down from 7.8 per cent in March last year.

Systime firmly in support of NEB software subsidiary

Silver lining in the clouds at Insac

Despite the controversy surrounding the National Enterprise Board's Insac computer software subsidiary, one member company, Systime of Leeds, remains steadfast in its support of Insac.

Systime builds complete business computer systems (hardware and software) around central processors supplied by Digital Equipment, the leading American minicomputer manufacturer. Since the NEB took a 26 per cent stake in Systime in July 1977, the company has proved one of Insac's brightest in growth of turnover and profit.

Insac aims after its view that interests were hived off into the newly named Oregon group, to develop, market and export computer software products. Insac concentrates on products developed by member-companies, in all of which the NEB holds a minority interest.

Mr John Parkinson, Systime chairman, said he felt "almost outraged" at the recent spate of disparaging remarks about Insac, which has seen resignations from its board, by other member companies. He says his company's experience was of a highly successful collaboration with the NEB subsidiary.

He pointed in particular to the company's Systel teleprocessing system as perhaps the only example of a joint Insac/company project that had been carried out in line with the original Insac objectives.

This software was developed at an initial cost of £750,000, funded half by Insac and half by Systime. It enables users of Digital PDP-11 and VAX-780 computers to develop and implement systems that can handle many remote terminals. The package is expected to be installed by a few large customers in the United Kingdom this year, prior to its launch on the all-important United States market.

Mr Parkinson denied suggestions that Insac was an easy source of money: proposals have to be detailed, and evaluation is thorough. "Having got over the hurdle of the technical proposal and the marketing proposal, the Insac view of funding is a very adult approach to the realities of software marketing." NEB executives had contributed good ideas that had helped to shape Systime's five-year corporate plan.

Some of Insac's problems came from the clash of personalities and conflicts of interest among the chief executives of the member companies who came together as the Insac board. Mr Parkinson admitted that confidentiality remained a problem. Details of the Systel proposal, for example, would inevitably be seen by other Insac member companies who were competitors of Systime.

This was accepted, by Systime, at least, as one of the rules of the game.

The original golden vision of progress

under the Insac umbrella, he said, had been overtaken by the pursuit of individual interest. He approved of the recent widening in Insac board membership to embrace outside non-executive directors with member companies' more direct concerns being handled at a lower level.

Systime's turnover grew by about 70 per cent in 1979 to reach £5.6m for an after-tax profit of £1.5m. This year's turnover could show a further 50 per cent growth. Profits are ploughed back into the company, but the company could not immediately finance its own entry into the United States market.

"The software industry is under-capitalised, and Insac offers a solution to this. We must fund and develop new application programmes as margins decrease on hardware."

Mr Parkinson was convinced that in the long term demand for good software people in western Europe would considerably exceed the supply.

One lesson which the Systime chairman drew from the short, turbulent history of Insac was that the board should have done more to initiate projects and not simply approve members' proposals. Now, that Insac is looking outside for suitable projects from non-member companies, it appears that this lesson has been learnt.

Kenneth Owen

Post Office on course for division

By Our Management Correspondent

The Post Office has made good progress in reorganising internally in preparation for its division into two corporations, according to a statement issued by Sir William Barlow, the chairman.

All the main decisions on internal changes are expected by June.

Staff in the central headquarters would be reallocated to the postal, telecommunications, business during the next two months. Sir William said. Every member of the central staff had been given the chance of stating his preference and no redundancy would be involved.

Two separate business boards, one covering Post and National Girobank and the other Telecommunications, have been set up to help pave the way for the separation. At present Sir William is chairman of both boards but the Government is due to appoint a chairman-designate for each within the next few months.

Legislation to complete the split is expected to be placed before Parliament later this year.

The Post Office reorganisation has been directed by a top management group which meets weekly and there have also been weekly meetings of a joint re-organisation committee consisting of union and management executives.

In most areas where services were shared, such as vehicle maintenance and purchasing, plans were being implemented in full consultation with Post Office unions, the statement said.

Clothing trade urged to rethink job problems

By Patricia Tisdall

Clothing companies could do more to overcome their recruitment problems, according to a report issued by the National Economic Development Office today. The reluctance of many employers to disclose details of actual earnings for skilled machinists to the Jobcentres, for example, tends to reinforce local mythology that the clothing industry pays badly, the report says.

A survey of employment in 20 clothing companies found that most had critical recruitment problems. There was a shortage of key skills such as sewing machinists and sewing machine mechanics. It concludes that companies should make a more systematic approach to recruitment and give special attention to advertising and relations with schools

RETAIL SALES

The following are the seasonally adjusted figures for the volume of retail sales and value of new instalment credit released by the Department of Trade.

	Sales by volume 1979-100	New credit £m	Impaired change in debt
Jan	99.3	525	67
Feb	100.8	532	81
March	101.5	528	39
April	100.1	545	72
May	102.6	521	132
June	108.3	680	198
July	107.5	629	117
Aug	100.8	654	103
Sept	99.4	616	109
Oct	100.8	663	97
Nov	102.5	658	144
Dec	101.7	653	34
1980	103.0	668	74
Jan	104.1	687	156

WHOLESALE SALES

The following are the indices (1975=100) of wholesale prices of manufactured goods and the basic materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry yesterday.

	Output prices (nominal and sales)	Prices of materials and fuels	% change on previous month	% annual rate
(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)
1979				
Jan	163.2	155.2	9.3	14.9
Feb	165.5	160.6	11.7	33.0
March	168.1	162.4	12.3	34.0
April	170.9	165.6	16.6	22.6
May	174.8	168.1	18.4	22.6
June	178.3	169.1	18.7	21.7
July	178.2	172.5	18.2	21.0
Aug	180.1	177.1	17.7	21.0
Sept	181.6	186.0	17.3	30.5
Oct	183.4	187.0	16.5	26.7
Nov	185.3	192.5	18.3	32.4
Dec	191.5	197.6	17.5	34.0
1980				
Jan	194.0	199.4		
Feb	194.0	199.4		
March	194.0	199.4		

and Jobcentres in their areas. Selection procedures could also be improved. Most companies rely only on their skills of a few experienced workers to provide the flexibility needed to compensate for absenteeism.

Few companies plan their future training requirements. Most rely heavily on the skills of a few experienced workers to provide the flexibility needed to compensate for absenteeism.

People Make Clothing, from NEDO Books, 1 Steel House, 11 Tothill Street, London, SW1-9SL, at £2.00 (£2.27 postage paid).

Business appointments

Bank names senior executive

Mr D. L. Millar has been appointed senior general manager of Standard Chartered Bank.

Mr John Breining-Riches has been made a director of Arrowcroft Management.

Mr Julian Markham has been appointed chairman of the Royal Property Consultancy Council.

Mr Patrick Hall is now a partner in Mason Phillips.

Mr Harry Lord has been made group secretary and a director of the United Kingdom Holdings Board.

Mr Ivor Elms has been elected president of The Association of British Travel Agents.

Mr Geoffrey Hudson becomes financial director of Marland Machine Systems.

Mr Brian James is promoted managing director of the New Ward White Group company, Shoreditch, London.

Mr W. C. Emmerson has been made technical director of Field, Sons.

Mr E. S. Badamoore, managing director of Dennisons Manufacturing, takes on the additional role of chief executive of all United Kingdom operations following the retirement of Mr E. M. Smith, formerly chairman.

Mr John Westwood has been made foreign director of Marshall Cavendish Partnerships.

He replaces Mr Tim Wilton-Stear who has resigned to become managing director of Publicatur (UK).

Indexing prices for capital gains tax

From Mr G. W. Gardner

Sir, Once again the budget proposals fudge the problem of capital gains tax and increase the injustices arising from rules that allow exemption of some real capital gains and yet cause people who have in fact lost real capital to be heavily taxed.

No doubt even Treasury officials accept that if the capital gains tax system is to be honest and fair, acquisition prices must be indexed for inflation, but indexing is rejected on ground of administrative convenience.

It is my belief that the administrative reason for refusing indexing is not soundly based and I feel able to speak with some authority on the administrative problem as I am responsible for an office which has prepared thousands of capital gains tax computations.

To carry out a capital gains tax computation one ascertains the date and cost of acquisition and date and proceeds of disposal. It is the gathering of this information which is time consuming. But it would be very simple to inflation adjust the acquisition price if the Inland Revenue published a list of index figures for quarterly intervals.

All one would have to do is take the first index figure after the date of acquisition and the index figure which is the latest before the date of disposal. The first figure would form the denominator and the second the numerator of a fraction by which the acquisition value would be multiplied.

If the Inland Revenue wishes to simplify the procedure further one would be prepared to concede half-yearly figures

to coincide with the half-yearly figures.

Yours faithfully,

G. W. GARDNER,

3 Molly Potts Close,

Kinshurst, Cheshire, WA16 8QJ.

April 4.

Bank pr and inte on accou

From H. G. Powys

Sir, There have been hints that since the introduction of very substantial increases in profits by banking banks, they may interest.

I sincerely hope not to take this step to a large bureaucracy in both and private sectors and indeed quite logical.

The banks will be to advise the Inland Revenue of any interest person in excess.

Inland Revenue will to trace its assets to the file of the taxpayer. Equally, will have any interest.

After all, any customer who feels interest can very easily to a de and equally easily again.

Yours faithfully,

H. G. POWYS GRI

Whitsbury House,

Fordbridge,

Hampshire.

April 4.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

British Petroleum in transition

What were British Petroleum's last year? Current Cost Accounting's bumper £1.6bn of net income, cutting the return on capital from the historic figure of almost £1.7bn to just under £1.6bn. This return, to the chairman, Sir David Steel, is one, but entirely necessary to the planned capital expenditure CA figures, however, tell only half the story. Last year, as the accounts show, went a fundamental change in its From being a substantial crude oil from Iran, and is now needing around five million tonnes a year to meet its refinery requirements.

At the same time as it has lost its access to Alaska North Sea has increased in volume, dramatically, in price. It is little doubt that the changes in market last year worked out to BP's favour. The gain in the value of its oil which has risen from 20 per cent group requirements in 1975 to last year—outweighed the probability to buy in expensive, difficult short term supplies.

Capital, nevertheless, was forced by £1.6bn, but the group as a total capital spending of £1.13bn is down to £442m, and there was a further to reduce long term borrowing.

duction in borrowing, however, was in the United States subsidiary or the group faces a different picture. The loss of Middle East oil will strongly to trim profits. Prices remain high, but are not being reflected in the market. Europe, which was a profit earner last year, is not be nearly so good in 1980.

Mr Carter's windfall profits tax 200m from Sohio, and the increase will add another £100m to the oil tax bill. For the first time, in the United Kingdom in 1980 is close to tax provided for. Earnings rose to a peak which may not be for some time.

Company in transition, from crude to Western oil producer. It is a which is not yet complete and is uncertainties for the future.

velocity of investing in the United States for British companies, in hesitating about its proposed of Howard Johnson, and yesterday House Forte has announced that going ahead with the proposed of Dobbs House, two groups' reasons may differ, of a major recession and sky rates have certainly had some with both cases.

thought to have offered around Dobbs Houses, not enough to 100%, which has now sold Dobbs an American company. Now that has been much reduced, it has of cash earning around 20 per cent afford to be very cheap.

likelihood that there will be takeover potential on both sides in the coming months. The wait for a better bargain.

NEWS ON writing

Royal Exchange brought the yesterday on an awful results the insurance composites, with profits drop of 9 per cent to

spared well enough with the 17.15 per cent shortfalls reported Sun Alliance and Phoenix. But the market took particular to GRE marrning one of the best records in the sector, by profits of £13.6m, in place of the up of £14.8m, and accordingly shares down 10p to 220p.

level the historic p/e ratio is at the shares yield 8.8 per cent, a 16 per cent boost to the pay-

ment. Given that GRE seems to have taken the opportunity this time to get rid of a lot of bad news on the underwriting front, the rating is not demanding.

Like its rivals, GRE was hard hit by bad weather but the turnaround from previous United Kingdom underwriting surplus of £5.4m to break-even is largely due to a £3.5m provision on the potential computer leasing losses, which are currently rocking Lloyd's. Meanwhile a £5m loss from France, on a mere £15m of policies, looks almost too bad to be true.

Given better underwriting prospects at home and fairly minimal exposure to the ravages of the United States underwriting cycle (in spite of the recent purchase of Midwestern Fidelity), profits recovery to between £85m and £90m, based on a rise in investment income, seems to be on the

cards.

Croda International Still drifting sideways

Croda International has been drifting sideways for several years. Results for 1979 only emphasize the trend—or lack of it—and there is little to suggest that Croda will buck the downturn in chemicals in 1980. Profits could fall as low as £13m before tax.

The drop in 1979 profits from £15.1m to £14.7m was largely due to the £1.5m rise in net interest payable to £3.43m, following a £10m increase in borrowings.

Croda is tackling this, but given present interest rates and the size of its debt, the group could be paying £3m in interest charges in the first half of 1980 alone.

There were a number of bright spots in 1979. Organic chemicals, polymers and the overseas companies all produced good results. This more than made up for a £1.5m turnaround to £500,000 losses in the gelatin operations, and trading profits were £1.5m higher.

Croda can also boast a dividend covered one and a half times by current cost profits. And although the year's payout rose by only a quarter, which was less than expected, this may leave room for a small increase in 1980.

But there is not much else to cheer about. First half profits in 1980 will be depressed by interest charges and continuing losses on gelatin operations, though these have been summed. The shares at 43p yield 10.3 per cent, and the fully-taxed prospective p/e ratio is about 7.

Given the current cost cover, the yield should support the shares at this level, but they are not likely to appreciate in the short term.

Gill & Duffus

Diversification risks

Gill & Duffus has a record of solid profits growth, and can reasonably claim to have done well by its shareholders. All the more reason, then, why they should view last year's setback (from £22.7m to £20.56m pre-tax) with a certain amount of trepidation.

In fact, the figure is better than forecast; and this, an improvement at the attributable level (thinks to a lower tax charge and the release of previous year provisions), and a 37.7 per cent increase in the distribution, were enough to put the shares 5p higher at 132p, where the yield is 7.6 per cent.

There are explanations for the setback. The cocoa market, on which Gill & Duffus is still heavily dependent, was dull; the new cocoa powder plant in the States was slow to come on stream, and ran into competition when it did; the strength of sterling, particularly against the dollar and the cruise, cost some £500,000 at the trading level, and much more below the line.

What they add up to is the fact that, in its efforts to expand and diversify, the group is going to run up against problems that do not arise on the traditional cocoa broking business that it knows inside out. The efforts continue nevertheless; and in some areas—notably chemical trading—are starting to pay off.

The shares may not be the "lock-away" they once were, but they are not expensive.

Business Diary: CBI's rising sun • Abell helper?

Tot Hill Street head—a just gained a further aspect. The kingdom arm of the electronics group, has enlisted in the gentle of British industry—qualifies because it television and hi-fi Cardiff and it is the footstep of its counterpart Sony. Increasing oriental Tot Hill Street could federation on the import controls. The last announced that was buying important television sets, to give the "Made in the UK" on Panasonic's kingdom sets a new importance.

will the CBI, which initially opposed its role, but admits that be times when they are, rest, rest to one abers being treated

from Tot Hill Street's particular bridge underlined when it

Ford of Britain, probably one of the most cost-conscious of the nation's motor manufacturers, has just appointed its first energy conservation co-ordinator. He is Ron Baldock, a Ford man for the past 36 years, who wants to see the company reduce its energy consumption by 10 per cent.

Ford has released some figures to show how impressive such a saving could be. Last year, the United Kingdom organization spent £2m on gas, electricity, fuel oil, lubricating oils and coal. The 90,000 therms of gas used could provide heating and hot water for 100,000 homes for a year and the 1,012 million units of electricity consumed could meet the total needs of Manchester for six months.

The company admits that it is the largest consumer of energy in Ford of Europe's operation, but says that this is because it employs more people, carries out more basic production work and is the largest Ford tractor producer in the world.

Panasonic United Kingdom's chairman, Brian Reilly, a one-time managing director of GEC's radio and television side, is delighted at joining the CBI and wants the EEC's proposed ban scrapped by national action.

British interests have been perfectly happy with the voluntary agreements in the past, so I can't see why the EEC should want to interfere, he told Business Diary.

But if the EEC shutter did come down against Japanese imports, the United Kingdom subsidiary, with 70 per cent of the company's total profits now made in Britain, would be admirably placed to fill the gap.

David Abell, 37, who runs Balford's commercial vehicles division, is expected to come to the aid of ailing Mersey Docks and Harbour next week.

Abell already owns a stake in the Mersey Docks' equity and his name is being bandied about more and more frequently as someone with sufficient financial knowledge to pull the troubled group into the black.

Such a move would not involve his quitting Balford, however. With a half-time loss of almost £1m, Mersey Docks needs some help.

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Sharp downturn at Blackwood Hodge

By Philip Robinson

Shares of earth moving and mining equipment distributors Blackwood Hodge dropped to a 12-month low yesterday as the company disappointed the stock market with a £5.5m profits drop for last year to £10.9m. Turnover rose 14 per cent to £281m.

The news shaved 3p from the price to 38p, though the shares later recovered to 39p. The total gross dividend rose 22 per cent to 3.57p with the 2.142p final already forecast.

Spare parts for its machines is the major margin earner for Blackwood and in the United Kingdom the transport, engineering and the 14-week open cast coal mining strikes meant machine parts were not wearing out fast enough.

With little work, competition became fierce and the United Kingdom trading profit dropped from £10.4m to £7.5m.

But the pretax figure was also affected by a £1.65m provision on stock losses on crane maker Hydrocon Engineering—which supplied Blackwood, and has gone into receivership—and the change in the status of the Nigerian company from subsidiary to associate.

That cost the group nearly £24m as its share of profits was reduced to 40 per cent and

as profits of the Nigerian company fell from £5m to around £1m.

Elsewhere in Africa the reduced price of copper and financing difficulties by customers reduced trading profits by about £800,000.

However other overseas operations all improved performance.

Europe, which three years ago was running at loss, doubled earnings to £2m and the open cast mining bonanza in Australia more than doubled profits to £3m.

Mr William Shapland, chairman, said the mining equipment industry was an important growth area. Australia can now sell coal to Britain £10 a tonne cheaper than the National Coal Board.

Despite a smaller tax charge of 4.77m and the release of deferred tax provision of just over £1m the group showed a £1.8m extraordinary item relating to a write-off of goodwill on the vehicle distribution group it bought from National Carbonising in the Netherlands. Profit to the parent company fell from £7.7m to £4.9m.

Mr Shapland says this year's profits should top last year's figure with a larger increase in net profits because of non-recurring exceptional and extraordinary items.

Stock markets

Reduction in short tap price starts a rally

The intervention of the Government broker in reducing the price of the short tap acted as the signal for both gilt edged and equity markets to move ahead yesterday just as it looked as though investment lethargy would cause Tuesday's losses to continue.

The pattern of the previous day's trading, when there were small selling orders, was transformed into some larger buying by the institutions. Hopes that American interest rates were at the top, and Wall Street's early 6 point improvement to 775, encouraged the London market to gain 4p to 370p, as did Glaxo which closed at 126p. Beechams added 3p to 116p and Fisons 2p to 267p, while Courtaulds also gained 2p to 66p. Rank at 196p and Unilever at 396p were unchanged.

Most of the blue chip stocks gained a few pence, with the majority of buyers going for 25,000 to 50,000-share parcels. ICI gained 4p to 370p, as did Glaxo which closed at 126p. Beechams added 3p to 116p and Fisons 2p to 267p, while Courtaulds also gained 2p to 66p. Rank at 196p and Unilever at 396p were unchanged.

The equity rally was prompted by the cut in the price of the short tap in Exchequer 134 per cent 1983 from 597 when issued in January to 595. The effect was to create a small damper on shorts, which closed firm about 54 up on the day. Longer-dated gilts, which saw brisk trading throughout the day, finished at the top between 51 and 52 better on average.

A crop of mixed company results, and a few special situations, provided much of the interest in equities, although other staged a rally after the previous day's setback when the Thistle Field was closed. Mines failed to retain the support shown after the improvement in the bullion price on Tuesday.

The FT Index climbed

steadily all day to close at 431.3 up 4.6. After hours, the tendency for leaders to harden a penny or two, while gilt were neglected.

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Satisfactory results from Gill and Duffus put 2p on the shares to 139p, while Dreamland Electrical gained 4p to 59p after record profits. Empire Stores eased 2p to 148p with a warning about a profit fall in the second half. Blackwood's figures were worse than expected and the shares finished 1p off at 392p, after dipping 3p during the day.

Croda International, whose results were broadly in line

with expectations, lost 4p to 43p. The insurance sector provided conflicting reactions to results. Guardian Royal Exchange lost 10p to 220p after disappointing the market, while Pearl Assurance gained 14p to 170p on news that its proposed big American acquisition had fallen through.

On the bid front, investors took heed of the S. Hoffmann board's opposition to the Burman offer and lifted the price 3p to 32p. Craig Shipping saw some speculative interest, which helped to move the price further off the bottom and pushed it 150p up to 210. Hawley Leisure gained 2p to 43p after reports that it would bid for Provincial Laundry, with whom it shares a chairman. Provincial moved up 4p to 37p.

Johnson Matthey benefited

from the continued rise in metals prices, and finished 5p up at 253p, while gold shares lost the impetus of the previous day but still made improvements. Anglo American Gold rose 2p to 575. F. S. Royal, 52p to 53p; and West Brierleyton rose 52p to 569. Coms Gold was 4p better at 481p but RTZ was unchanged at 373p.

Oil share prices came back sharply after the downturn earlier in the week. The partners in the Thistle Field venture recovered, with Burman rising 5p to 215p, Ultramar 10p higher at 536p and Tricentra advancing by 12p to 286p.

Lasmo received the biggest spur in the sector and went up 27p to 463p, while Siebens, which had been depressed by worries over the Marathon drilling report, came back 17p better at 637p. The majors also followed the trend with Shell and BP gaining 12p to 344p and 376p respectively.

Equity turnover for April 3 was £72,756m (number of bargains 12,841). The most active stocks according to Exchange Telegraph were Shell, Burman, Barclays, Premier, ICI, Boreham, RAI, Industries CEG, Grand Metropolitan, Hotels, National Westminster, Midland, Ultragrain, and Lasmo.

Empire Stores' warning

By Our Financial

Mail order gr

Stores (Bradford)

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Mr. John Gratiw

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Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance

Results for 1979

Subject to audit the results of Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance Limited for the year ended 31st December, 1979 are as follows:

	1979	1978	
£m	£m	£m	
Investment Income	90.3	77.1	
Less Interest Payable	7.9	5.7	
	82.4	70.4	
 Underwriting Results			
Short-term (Fire, Accident and Marine)	(13.6)	4.8	
Long-term	7.0	8.1	
	(6.6)	12.9	
Profit before taxation	75.8	88.3	
Less taxation	33.3	40.9	
Profit for year after taxation	42.5	42.4	
Less Preference dividend and Minority Interests	1.7	1.1	
Profit for year after taxation available to Ordinary shareholders	40.8	41.3	
Ordinary Dividends			
Interim 5.0p per share	6.3	5.9	
Proposed Final 5.5p per share	10.7	8.7	
Total 13.5p per share (1978: 11.6p)	17.0	14.6	
Profit transferred to Retained Profits	£23.5m	£26.7m	
Earnings per Ordinary share (after taxation)	32.4p	32.9p	
 Results by Territories (before Taxation)			
	1979	1978	
Net Premiums	Under-writing	Investment Income	
£m	£m	£m	
Australia	25.5	(0.1)	4.7
Canada	47.3	(1.9)	4.8
Germany	130.1	(5.4)	14.1
U.S.A.	20.9	0.7	3.1
U.K.*	275.2	—	35.6
Other Territories**	161.7	(6.9)	20.1
	660.7	(13.6)	82.4
			619.7
			4.8
			70.4

* Includes Marine and Overseas risks written in the United Kingdom

** Includes Reinsurance and Republic of Ireland

Exchange Rates

1979 1978

Australia 2.01 1.77

Canada 2.59 2.42

The effect of exchange rate fluctuations was to reduce premium income by £33m and investment income by £7m, but the short-term underwriting result was little affected.

Dividend

The Directors recommend the payment of a final dividend which, with the interim payment in January 1980, will constitute an increase of 16.4% compared with the dividend paid in respect of the year 1978.

If approved at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 4th June, 1980 a payment at the rate of 8.5p per share (gross equivalent 12.1p) in respect of the final dividend will be made on 5th June to holders of Ordinary shares whose names appear on the register on 2nd May, 1980, making with the interim payment in January last, a total of 13.5p (1978: 11.6p) per share (gross equivalent 19.285p; 1978: 17.3134p).

The Directors intend to reduce the disparity between the interim and final dividends and in the absence of unforeseen circumstances, will declare in September an interim dividend of 6p per share.

The Annual Report and Accounts will be posted to shareholders on 1st May, 1980.

Investment income and life profits

performed fully to our expectations, the reduction in the latter being due to the

exceptional profit of £1.9m in 1978 arising out of

the vesting of part of the terminal bonus

distribution.

The above results were affected by abnormally severe weather in the northern hemisphere, both early and late in the year. The cost in the U.K. was over £4m and in addition a provision was made for a number of potential claims totalling £3.5m in respect of computer leasings.

The Canadian decline in profits exceeded

our expectations; in other territories losses over £5m were incurred in France, and hurricane

"David" in the West Indies cost £1.5m. Losses

were also made in the Republic of Ireland and in

Spain. We made good profits in Brazil, Kenya,

Malaysia and South Africa.

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ASSISTANT TO EUROPEAN PERSONNEL MANAGER

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We are a major international Company engaged in the manufacture and sale of electronic components and systems. My job is to develop and implement personnel policies and procedures for our 6 European subsidiaries. I have an urgent need for an Assistant whose initial task will be to provide secretarial support, but I am really looking for someone who wants a much greater involvement and will take over specific areas of responsibility, possibly with a view to a career in Personnel Management. Some travel in the U.K. is envisaged initially, and, as the job develops, possibly within Europe.

This is a really challenging appointment working in an international environment, requiring a high level of ability and commitment. If you have these qualities, and are qualified to at least HND/HNC level, with not less than 5 years secretarial experience at Executive level, telephone me on: 01-349 9318 for an appointment, or send full education and career details, including a telephone number where you can be contacted, to:

Peter M. Kirby,
Fairchild Camera &
Instrument Europe Inc.,
44/46 Ballards Lane,
Finchley Central,
London N3 2BZ.

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SECRETARIES

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01-638 4234

Please bring curriculum vitae to interview.

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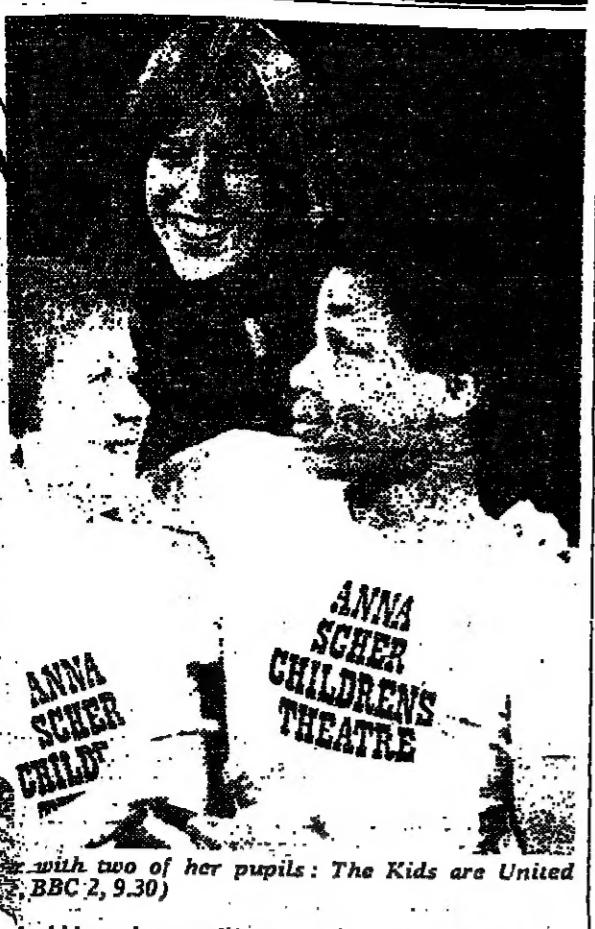
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PERSONAL CHOICE



with two of her pupils: The Kids are United BBC 2, 9.30

bad idea, when a crisis drags on and shows little tendency to remind ourselves how the wretched thing is first place. I applaud Newswise's initiative, chime a three-part investigation into the problem, the first part can be seen tonight (BBC 2, 7.35) and for the Republicans, summed up in a sentence by MP: "I see it, tragically so, that there will be violence [in Northern Ireland] until Britain is not inappropriate, perhaps, to remind you that a a violence play is currently being televised on BBC 1 that they contain pre-echoes of Mr Blaney's

post-echo of Mr Blaney's words in The Kids are 2, 9.00), though I must not labour the point because an account of what happened when Anna Scher, children's theatre in Islington, took some of her classes to Northern Ireland to take part in improvised s with local children. National barriers, whether and white, British and Irish, Protestant and Catholic need to be ignored. They were never seen to the first place.

Likes of Us, tonight's Play for Today (BBC 1, off variation on the all-too-familiar theme of the at turns. It is the story of the Invisible Woman, non-person who is, none the less, mother, wife, friend. She is played in Gilly Fraser's play by an. Ostensibly a comedy, I am assured that it does that level all the way through.

commendations about today's music-making are inducting the LSO in the Mussorgsky/Ravel exhibition, Tippett's Ritual Dances (from Marriage) and Debussy's Iberia (Images) on at 8.0—Radio Times' Dubs Mr Celibidache which must have puzzled many people including, distinguished Romanian himself—and there is vert Cushman's series about musicals, on Radio 3 night: early Cole Porter, if your fancy turns us happily settle for a 1976 concert by the Rass Ensemble (Radio 3, 11.05 am).

ed your notice, I wonder, that something historic on Radio 3? Graham Greene's new book Doctor Faustus was published only two weeks ago yet, with special sanction, it is already being broadcast, in version by Ian Holm. Eight episodes in all, of (5.0) is the sixth. The serialization of Alec obitography Double Bill (Radio 3, 8.45 am), rably from having the author read his own words.

MBOLS MEAN: *STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE;

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: Management in education; 7.05 Hogarth's Paintings; 7.30 Victorian Music Hall: Closedown at 7.35.

9.25 Ludwig: Jon Glover tells the story of 10-year-old Ronald Pickin's实作: G. A. Hingray's Willow's Rude; 10.15 Arthur the Gau: French cartoon serial. Part 2; 10.35 Why Don't You?: What children can do, apart from watching TV. All these are repeat screenings. Closedown at 11.00.

11.00 News and weather.

1.00 Pebbles Bill: Open: Brass band veteran Harry Mortimer (he is 70) conducts the Morris Motors Band from Oxford. And Tony Bilton visits the Hollywood Studios to talk to the stars. 1.45 Mr. Benn: Story by David McKee, told by Ray Brooks (r). 2.15 Racing from Cheltenham: We see the 2.30, the 3.05 and the 3.40. 3.35 Play School: Julie Donaldson and her puppets. 3.45 The Hare: 2.20 The All-New Popper Show: the sailor and his girl friend Olive. 3.45 Oy! in cartoon fun;

4.40 Graham's Gang: The case of the walking scarecrow (r); 5.05 John Craven's Newsround; junior newsreader: 5.15 Blue Peter: the young animal Paul Stimpson, who is 12, visits the RAF at St. Mawgan in Cornwall and meets their mascot, the Great Eagle Owl he has named Octavia. 5.40 News: with Peter Woods. 5.55 Nationwide.

6.45 Young Musician of the Year: The semi-final round of the piano class. From the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester. Tomorrow: the final class.

7.25 Top of the Tops: Another kind of musical programme—very heavily commercial.

7.55 Lennie and Jerry: The Lennie Stevens comedy show, with guests Clive Dunn and the Army Band. 8.00 8.30 Jason Burke: The Real Thing. The fast-thinking, quick-thinking Mr Burke explains what memory is. It will, of course, not be quite as simple as that.

8.35 Play School: Julie Donaldson and her puppets. 8.45 The Hare: 2.20 The All-New Popper Show: the sailor and his girl friend Olive. 8.45 Oy! in cartoon fun;

a new role for herself in life. Starring Pam St. Clements, with Terry Sculley as her placid husband.

10.25 French Fashion: Two hundred years of adoration, from the days of拿破崙 to the Union Française des Arts du Costume, Paris. Princess Anne is in the audience, and it is all in aid of the Save the Children Fund.

11.02 Question Time: Robin Day is again in the chair, and the panel consists of European MP Sheila Roberts, the former agriculture minister, and former Soviet War Intelligence expert Professor R. V. Jones, and Elisabeth Hoodless, the voluntary organization chief.

12.02 am Weather.

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3.45 News and weather.

4.40 am Open University: Mathematics; 7.05 In the dock: 7.30 Water masses. Close down at 7.35.

4.00 11.00 News and weather.

4.15 Open University: The imperial Roman army; 5.15 China: politics and social change; 5.40 The Little Street Kids; 6.05 The wonderful way. 6.30 Analysing social interaction.

6.55 The Seven Burnhams by the sea: A personal view of Burnham Overy Staithe, in north Norfolk, by the poet and writer Kevin Crossley-Holland. The camerawork is by A. E. Clarke.

7.25 News: with subtitles for the hard of hearing.

7.35 Man Alive: The Kids are

cans and Loyalists. First of two reports by Keith Kyle, into these two totally opposed traditions. Tonight's programme is devoted to the Republicans.

8.10 In the Making: Bookbinder Paul Shannon creates and makes a highly original binding for Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, using materials such as glass, velvet, wood and leather.

8.30 Erich Fromm: The late psychologist and social philosopher in a conversation with Robert Robinson. It was filmed in Switzerland in 1978.

9.00 A Question of Guilt: Part 6 of the dramatic reconstruction of the case of Constance Kent, who was charged with killing her three-year-old stepbrother.

9.30 Man Alive: The Kids are

United. Fascinating film record of what happened when Anna Scher, who runs a unique children's theatre in Islington, took her pupils to east Belfast and had a drama course for Protestant and Catholic children (see Personal Choice).

10.15 Barbara Fairchild Sings Country: A performance by this American singer, given at the Snape Maltings.

11.00 News and weather.

11.15 Financial Roundup.

12.15 am Weather.

1.00 News and weather.

1.30 Work and Leisure: Mrs Shirley Williams, senior research fellow, Policy Studies Institute, gives a lecture on the Royal Institutions. It will be shown again next Sunday afternoon.

1.35 Closedown: Ted Walker's poem Mushrooms is read by Stephen Thorne.

5.45 News. 6.00 Thematics News. 6.20 Help! I Want Shemton's advice and information spot.

6.30 Film: Carry on Again, Doctor (1969). Medical burlesque, set mainly on a South Sea island, with Kenneth Williams, Sid James, Jim Dale.

8.00 Armchair Thriller: Final episode of The Circle Complex, about a fortune in missing jewels.

8.30 TV Eye: Interview with community leaders in St Paul's, Bristol, in the wake of the recent rioting.

9.00 Chief of Detectives: New York crime series. Is the veteran detective guilty of murder?

10.00 News.

10.30 Thematics Report: Casinos—Victor Tosses All? Filmed on Victor Lowndes' boss of Playboy business, now dominates London casino life.

11.00 Lou Grant: Newspaper romance. Romances his offices of the Tribune.

11.15 What the Papers Say: Frank Homepan serial. 5.15 Selwyn: broad comedy with Bill Maynard heading for work in a holiday camp (r).

12.15 am Close: Evelyn Laye reads Shakespeare's sonnet Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer's Day?

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